

# The Middlebury Campus

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## Patton's Midyear Review: Laurie Talks First Months, Goals

By Claire Abbadi  
Editor-in-Chief

The Middlebury Campus  
SPECIAL FEATURE

The Middlebury Campus sat down with Laurie L. Patton to discuss her first few months at Middlebury as the College's 17<sup>th</sup> president. In this profile, Patton discusses what has surprised her about Middlebury, what her first days were like after her appointment and what she hopes to focus on in the coming months.

### Middlebury Campus (MC):

What have you accomplished during your first few months as President that you are proud of and what do you hope to accomplish or focus on during the coming months?

**Laurie Patton (LP):** So I'm not sure whether "accomplishment" is quite the right word, since I'm still just getting to know the community and presidencies usually make their mark over the long haul, after a period much longer than seven months. And I prefer to think of what we have accomplished together, since presidents don't actually have much unilateral power! Those two caveats aside, I am proud of so many things we have already done as a community: the first year of our new faculty governance system at Middlebury College; the great work faculty at Montreux have done on their new governance system; the second year of our new Board of Trustees governance system; the faculty vote this fall on a new AAL



President Laurie L. Patton Speaks with alumni at the Alumni of Color Weekend on Jan. 15-17.

requirement which was started by students; the creation of Alliance for an Inclusive Middlebury; the Disability Advisory Group; the Task force on Stress; all the great work that has come from faculty and students and staff on mindfulness practices and developing resilience. These are all about community practices that change culture over time, where we communicate better with each other and enhance quality of Middlebury life.

**MC:** Is there one thing that hasn't lived up to your expectations or

that has surprised you?

**LP:** The pleasant surprise has been how collaborative and constructive people are. I knew this about the Middlebury community, but the depth and extent of it has been truly a joy to encounter. On the down side, I also worry that we have too many bureaucratic layers. Even though we are a newly complex organization, I think we need to ask whether we are already too complex sometimes. I am greatly looking forward to the strategic planning process to think about

this issue across the Middlebury landscape.

**MC:** The national conversation surrounding racial issues has touched upon the role of institutions in protecting students from being offended. To what extent do you think Colleges should protect their students from potentially offensive situations? Is this possible? Beneficial? What is the distinction between protecting and censoring? At what point is freedom of speech in danger?

SEE PATTON, PAGE 3

## College to Stop Sale of Energy Drinks

By Elizabeth Sawyer  
Contributing Writer

In a flyer released this week, Dining Services announced its decision to stop the sale of energy drinks on campus. The policy will take effect on March 7, 2016. Beverages such as Red Bull and 5-Hour Energy will no longer be available for purchase at any of the College's retail locations. These locations include Midd Express, Wilson Café and The Grille. Guayaki Brand Yerba Mate, regarded as a healthier alternative to the previously identified energy drinks, will remain available for purchase.

The decision marked the culmination of a debate that began on Jan. 19, when Dining Software Intern Myles Kamisher-Koch introduced the topic in a Community Council meeting. In this meeting, Kamisher-Koch asserted that several Dining Services staff members approved of his proposal.

By presenting scientific research to demonstrate the several detrimental health effects of energy drinks, Kamisher-Koch ultimately argued that the sale of energy drinks violates Dining Services' mission, stated on the College's website, to "nourish and nurture today and tomorrow by sustaining mind, body and earth."

SEE RETAIL SPACES, PAGE 2

## SGA SENATE ADOPTS NEW INCLUSIVITY RESOLUTION

By Emma Dunlap  
Staff Writer

On Feb. 4, the Student Government Association (SGA) sent a statement addressing the College's MLK Today event, Supreme Court Justice Scalia's comments on Dec. 9 regarding black students on college campuses and the SGA's commitment to being "supportive and proactive" in fighting racism on campus.

The Senate voted in favor of sending out the all-student email after a group of senators, including SGA President Ilana Gratch '16 drafted the statement. In addition to the email, the SGA voted in favor of a resolution condemning the MLK event for its "highly offensive and post-racial actions" and acknowledging the problematic nature of Scalia's comments. This prompted the SGA to officially recommend that President Patton "send an all-school email addressing the MLK Day event and Justice Scalia's comments as soon as possible."

Freshman Senator and sponsor of the bill, Charles Rainey '19, expressed deep dissatisfaction with the administration's response to

the MLK Today event, which was perceived as a "macroaggression" towards the black community. Rainey said that a statement from President Patton would be a start in addressing the "distress deeply felt within Middlebury's black community" and to begin to address the "poor relationship" that exists between the SGA and students of color on campus.

Rainey commended Patton for her promotion of inclusivity and diversity on campus, but found her silence immediately after the MLK Today event "problematic and disappointing."

"[Patton's] silence and that of the SGA on these specific issues has spoken volumes to black Middlebury students... The SGA has failed to recognize and communicate the wide range of discontent that exists within the African-American community stemming from not only the aforementioned missteps but also years and years of institution neglect," Rainey said.

Rainey hoped that the email would serve as an apology to black students on campus on behalf of the SGA and as its recognition of the issues that black students continue to face on campus.

## RIDGELINE HOUSING BEGINS TO TAKE SHAPE



MICHAEL O'HARA

The new Ridgeline Residence Complex is currently on track to open for the Fall 2016 semester.

According to the President of Distinguished Men of Color (DMC) Mario Alberto Picon Jr. '17, the organization was approached by Senator Rainey and voted to support the statement released to the student body.

"Distinguished Men of Color continues to support the statement sent by SGA to all students as it aligns with the mission of DMC to continually support underrepresented and marginalized commu-

nities," Alberto Picon Jr. said. The resolution was discussed with other cultural organizations on campus, including Alianza, which expressed solidarity with the statements.

The Senate discussed the email statement and resolution in detail during the last two SGA meetings of J-term.

Not all members of the SGA Senate agreed that this resolution was the best course of action.

"I don't necessarily think it is

[the SGA's] place to speak for, as opposed to highlight the opinions of, various groups on campus," Senator Reshma Gogineni '16 said. "I think that the SGA should work harder to represent traditionally underrepresented groups on campus, but this should come through a conversation and legislative change co-sponsored with those groups as opposed to releasing statements on

SEE SGA, PAGE 3

INSIDE



**SUPERDELEGATES COMPLICATE BERNIE'S PRESIDENTIAL BID**  
PAGES 4 & 5

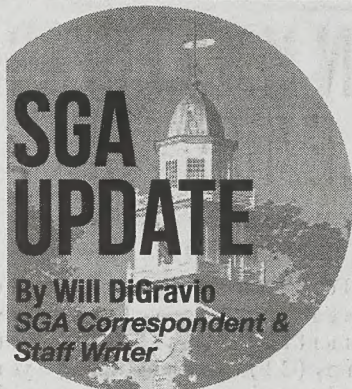


**SGA DEBUTS NEW TEXTBOOK EXCHANGE**  
PAGE 12



**WOMEN OF WILL CELEBRATES WOMEN IN SHAKESPEARE**  
PAGE 14





President Ilana Gratch '16 began the Jan. 24 meeting of the Student Government Association (SGA) with the announcement of a new working group to examine dynamics of power and inclusivity on campus. The hope is to implement courses on these topics into the College's curriculum.

Gratch also announced that the Feb. election will take place on Feb. 25 and that, despite a special election held earlier this fall, both seats will be up for election.

Speaker of the Senate Reshma Gogineni '16 shared that she is currently working to update MiddCourses with faulty biographies and information on teaching styles.

Wonnacott Senator Lisa Han '16 reported that funds have been secured to purchase rental skates for Kenyon Arena. Once storage space for the skates is obtained, the skates will be ordered and made available for students.

SGA Treasurer Aaron de Toledo updated the group that the finance committee will be taking new money requests until Apr. 1. Most organizations have already made their new money requests and the committee is currently transitioning to look at spring budgeting. He also shared that the yearbook came in \$22,000 under budget and that money will be returned to the SGA.

Senators discussed a proposal to purchase an app and website called LaundryView that would allow students to view when their laundry is finished and when machines are available for use. Last year, the SGA passed a bill to fund half (\$3,500) of the project, but the College is not able to pay the other half of the cost. President Gratch shared that one potential way to fund the project would be to increase the cost of laundry by \$0.25 for every wash and dry cycle. Senators discussed the merits of the additional cost and came to the consensus that doing so would not be beneficial to students.

The meeting concluded with a discussion of creating an SGA-run Facebook group/page to share information and resources about diversity and racism. Senators were skeptical of the effectiveness of such a group. Many agreed that, if it were implemented, it would have to be a small part of an overall effort by the SGA.

At the Jan. 31 meeting, Associate Dean of Students for Residential and Student Life Doug Adams asked the SGA for feedback on how rooms should be assigned in the new Ridgeline Housing Complex. According to Adams, students have expressed frustration with the room draw system, and asked that a new method be implemented for the project. Senators agreed that since one of the goals of the new housing is to keep students on campus, seniority should play a role in the process. President Gratch agreed that seniority should be considered, but pointed out that Febs may be disadvantaged should they choose to live with an individual one semester below them, versus one semester above.

First-Year Senator Charles Rainey '19 introduced a bill recommending that Middlebury College President Laurie L. Patton send an all-school email addressing the controversial comments on affirmative action that the now late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia made in December. The bill also called for President Patton to address the MLK Today event held in Mead Chapel on Jan. 18 that, as worded in the bill, "featured numerous highly offensive and post-racial actions (to name a few of a long list: a majority white oratory choir reading black experiences in the first-person, white students delivering quotes in a context that police POC's reactions to racism and songs repeated by the entire chapel suggesting POCs smile and many more)." After much debate, the resolution passed six to four, with two abstentions.

Senator Rainey introduced another bill that called for the SGA to release its own statement to the student body addressing both the MLK Today event and Justice Scalia's comments. The resolution passed seven to five, with one abstention.

## Retail Spaces to Stop Selling Energy Drinks

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Kamisher-Koch's data included a study finding that "up to 25 percent of current drinkers combine alcoholic beverages with energy drinks." He also included reports that energy drinks promote poor academic tendencies and foster a "culture of stress."

These concerns that Kamisher-Koch raised in his initial presentation appear to coincide with the opinions of several students on campus. "I learned in my psychology class that energy drinks are linked to high risk sex and drug use," Jenna McNicholas '19 said. Meg Knox '19 agreed.

"The school has a responsibility to direct students to healthy choices through what they provide," Knox said.

Opposition to this proposal in Community Council debate came mainly from students who believed the removal of energy

drinks from campus shelves would violate a student's right to choose what beverages they consume. Charles Rainey '19 voiced his concern that this measure would lead to Dining Services "controlling what people consume," and argued that he and others drink energy drinks responsibly, adding that the removal of the drinks from campus stores was too extreme a means of promoting student well-being.

However, those in support of the policy contended that Rainey's concern was not a grave one. Fiona Mohamed '18 stressed that the school would not be banning the consumption of energy drinks, but would be merely stopping their sale in retail locations on campus. Participants reminded those concerned with the change that they could buy the drinks at multiple retail locations situated close to campus.

Community Council held a vote on Ka-

misher-Koch's recommendation on Tuesday, Feb. 2. The proposal was approved 11 to 1, and Dining Services decided to adopt the resolution.

Dining Services' flyer, signed by Executive Director of Food Service Dan Detora, echoes the Community Council's sentiment. The flyer mentions scientific literature revealing a connection between energy drinks and unsafe behavior in young people, including "increased alcohol consumption, increased likelihood to drive while intoxicated, increased probability of use of other intoxicating substance and increased participation in high-risk sexual activity." The flyer also restates Kamisher-Koch's argument that the sale of energy drinks violates Dining Services mission, since, as the flyer reads, "consuming these products may result in serious health related issues such as; cardiovascular events, seizures and liver damage."

## ELECTION SEASON BRINGS CAMPAIGNS TO CAMPUS

By Grant Olcott  
Contributing Writer

Campaign trips, debate watching parties and a cardboard cutout of Hillary Clinton in Atwater Dining Hall: all signs that the nation's political energy has struck campus. In preparation for November, membership and involvement in a variety of clubs, lectures and classes has increased as students find ways to participate in the election season.

College Republicans and Democrats serve as the campus nexus of political activity and campaign coordination. In response to the elections, both clubs experienced an uptick in interest and participation.

"When you approach an election year on campus, people are much more inclined to come to meetings," said Hazel Millard '18, co-president of College Democrats. "It's great to take advantage of the fact that people are paying attention to us. The general population gets more interested when things are at stake, so it's been great to harness that interest."

The two groups meet several times a month for discussions and volunteering events. Despite the competition in both parties for the nomination, neither group sponsors a candidate. "We support all the candidates. It's a three way split between Bernie, Hillary and undecided which makes it interesting at our meetings," Millard said.

The participation process differs for republicans and democrats on campus. At College Republicans, students discuss and get involved with a range of candidates. For

democrats, specific organizations plan events for Senator Bernie Sanders and Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, while College Democrats serves as the hub for information and discussion on both.

Republican campaigns tend to reach out to the College Republicans leadership to coordinate events. Hayden Dublois '17, co-president of College Republicans, explained the typical process.

"What we're seeing is that a lot of republican campaigns and PACs are reaching out to us on a frequent basis from numerous candidates," Dublois said. "We like to invite them to come and make a presentation for our club and talk about the candidate they're supporting and oftentimes there are internship opportunities and ways to get involved."

Republican students have been attending talks from campaigns, phone banking and campaigning on a regular basis this year. The best event so far, according to Dublois, was the trip to Burlington for a reception with Governor John Kasich.

"The event where the Vermont Republican Party co-sponsored the dinner with John Kasich was great," Dublois said. "Not only did John Kasich speak, but the Vermont Lieutenant Governor spoke and the Chairman of the Vermont Republican party. At the end Governor Kasich shook the hand of everyone there."

College Democrats meetings are generally reserved for students to inform themselves on the issues and advocate for the candidate they prefer. "We want it to be a resource for

people to engage with democratic politics," Millard said. "Instead of operating as one club, those who want to discuss the politics go to College Democrats, and those looking to get involved in the campaigns join the Students for Hillary or Bernie group."

As a college in Sanders's home state, Middlebury is home to some of his most passionate young supporters. Elizabeth Lee '17 and Nate Rifkin '15 founded the national organization, Students for Bernie, which now has chapters at over 200 universities across the country.

"It started out with me having this idea for Middlebury for Bernie," Lee said. "After talking about it with other students, we thought it would be better to start a national organization, so we contacted our friends and students at progressive universities. Eventually it got on the front page of the *Daily Kos* and it grew quickly from that."

Commenting on the energy she sees on campus, Lee said Middlebury, "is the perfect place for Students for Bernie to start."

Like College Republicans does for their members, Students for Bernie helps facilitate events to raise awareness and participation in the campaign as much as possible.

Middlebury Students For Hillary serves as Clinton's student resource. "We started it first by looking for whatever we could do to help," said Will Schwartz '16, the group's co-president.

The group has done much of the grunt

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

## Karen Miller Hired for Two Admin Roles

By Lucy Grindon  
Contributing Writer

Karen L. Miller will join the College in April 2016 as the new Vice President for Human Resources and Risk. In her new position, Miller will act as a strategic leader for the Office of Human Resources and the Office of Risk and Compliance, both of which serve all of Middlebury's schools and programs.

Miller will be the first person to hold both the vice presidency of the Office of Human Resources and the vice presidency of the Office of Risk and Compliance. As Vice President for Human Resources, Miller will strategize about staff structure, hiring and compensation policies for Middlebury faculty, staff and student employees. In her role as chief risk officer, Miller will succeed Dr. Michael Geisler, who will leave Middlebury to become the new president of Manhattanville College in Purchase, New York.

According to Geisler, the main function of the Office of Risk and Compliance is "to enable and support the hundreds of initiatives and individual activities and programs that Middlebury faculty and students embark upon each year." The office identifies and tries to contain the risks associated with those programs "without stifling the academic creativity and entrepreneurial spirit that so distinguish the Middlebury community," Geisler said.

Miller will join the College's senior administration, working closely with President Laurie L. Patton and other administrators.

"Managing a large and increasingly complex institution effectively and efficiently means bringing best practices to the table, and Karen's broad experience will be invaluable to us," President Patton said.

Currently, Miller is a special advisor to the president of Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, where she has previously served as vice president and general counsel, vice president of administrative services, senior vice president of administration, chief of staff and chief operating officer. Before beginning her time at Morehouse College, Miller worked in several other higher education administration positions, including ac-

ademic dean of John Marshall Law School.

Miller holds a BA from Emory University and a JD from Harvard University. She is also a candidate at the University of Georgia's Institute of Higher Education, researching the process of improving organizational capacity and leadership capacity at higher education institutions.

"At a time when many institutions talk about being global or entrepreneurial or sustainable, Middlebury actually lives up to those aspirations and many more. That's a credit to the faculty, staff and students at Middlebury, and I look forward to working with all of them," Miller said.

MCAB PRESENTS  
93RD ANNUAL  
**WINTER CARNIVAL**

**THURSDAY**

- ~BONFIRE (ROSS LAWN) - 8-9:30 PM
- ~MIDCakes, GRILLE SNACKS & HOT COCOA BAR FOR THE BONFIRE (ROSS FIREPLACE LOUNGE) - 8-9:30 PM
- ~FIREWORKS (ROSS LAWN) - 9-9:30 PM
- ~THE "COAT RACK" STUDENT BAR FOR 21+ (CROSSROADS) - 9-11 PM
- ~A CAPPELLA CONCERT FEAT. BOBOLINKS & MAMAJAMAS/HOT COCOA BAR (CROSSROADS) - 9:45-10:45 PM

**FRIDAY**

- ~SKI RACES (RIKERT/SNOW BOWL) - 10 AM-3 PM
- ~NORTHERN LIGHTS (MCCULLOUGH LAWN) - 1-4 PM
- ~HISTORIC WINTER CARNIVAL FOOTAGE & HOT COCOA BAR (CROSSROADS) - 4-6:30 PM
- ~FREE FRIDAY FILM: MOCKINGJAY PART 2 (DANA AUDITORIUM) - 6 PM
- ~COMEDY SHOW FEAT. OTTER NONSENSE & MIDDLEBROW (WILSON HALL) - 9-10 PM
- ~80s SKI PARTY 18+ (MARQUIS THEATRE) - 10 PM-2 AM

**SATURDAY**

- ~SKI RACES (RIKERT/SNOW BOWL) - 10 AM-3 PM
- ~WINTER CARNIVAL BALL (NELSON) - 10 PM-2 AM
- ~ICE SHOW (KENYON) - SAT. 7:30-9 PM & SUN. 2:30-3:30 PM



# Patton Reflects On Eight Months at Midd

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

**LP:** As you know this question of inclusivity is a major priority for me. We can and should discuss in constructive ways how we handle situations of offense. We are just now putting in place the bias incident protocol, which means that there are procedures for when these incidents occur. And we need to uphold our community standards of conduct and speech that are already in place, which specifically emphasize that we should work to report and change unwelcome behavior before the environment becomes difficult or hostile for those affected. I also think that the opposition between free speech and inclusivity is a false one. We become a more inclusive community through the exercise of free speech. That also means that we try to create resilient spaces, where all members of our community have the skills to deal with an offense when it occurs. Because offenses occur in both small and large scales, and we are also dealing with structural bias that involves the slower process of systemic change, multiple solutions are needed: protocols for bias incident reporting; resilience training; constant review of bias in our systems and constant encouragement toward constructive engagement.

**MC:** In light of recent events involving racial injustice issues across college campuses, what does a more inclusive Middlebury look like to you?

**LP:** I would love to see students and faculty and staff become less afraid of engaging constructively with each other on difficult topics. That alone is going to take a lot of time. I would also love to see better interaction in classrooms and on athletic fields, so that we can talk more comfortably across differences. I don't think any campus has it right yet, but I think we need to be more invitational and develop a spirit of hospitality in spaces where we have been less welcoming and less mindful of historically underrepresented points of view.

**MC:** A recent *New York Times* op-ed titled "Rethinking College Admissions" raised concerns about the admissions processes at the most selective colleges. In your opinion, are current admissions standards flawed and, if so, what can Middlebury and its peer institutions do to mitigate the issue?

**LP:** Middlebury is a proud member of the Coalition for Affordability and Access that was referred to in the report. I think turning the tide on the ways in which we engage applicants is essential, and we will be working closely with other members to see how we can work collectively on this issue. That includes serious consideration of many of the recommendations that have now been put

forward, and focusing less on the resume and the "credentializing culture" and more on the transformative experiences of the individual and that individual's capacity to transform the college community they enter. We also need to do better work with families, particularly those from low-income households, who may not think more actively about the possibilities of a Middlebury education. The situation all colleges find themselves in is this:

*"I would love to see students and faculty and staff become less afraid of engaging constructively with each other on difficult topics. That alone is going to take a lot of time."*

**LAURIE PATTON**  
PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE

**MC:** You carry a wealth of experiences, illustrated through your extensive curriculum vitae and long list of honors, awards and accomplishments. Is there a particular feat that has stood out to you and marked a defining moment in your career?

**LP:** Yes. I think it was the moment I decided not to go into the corporate world to become a conflict mediator, but instead stayed in the academy and use my conflict mediation skills there. I realized then that higher education is one of the oldest and most fascinating forms of collective activity we have in civilization, beginning with the systems I study in ancient India. And that committing my life to that, and using conflict mediation skills in that context, was the most important work I could do as a scholar, teacher and leader.

**MC:** Considering the presidential search process had been long and private, the announcement of your appointment came very suddenly. What were the moments like before, during and after the huge announcement?

**LP:** The last 10 days before the announcement were harrowing. I was trying to keep a lid on the gossip, so that both wonderful institutions of Duke and Middlebury could be protected. My most powerful memory was on the day of the announcement. My question was: can I come back home to New England

having become the person I've become? As I walked up the hill with Marna Whittington, our head of the Board of Trustees, and Dave Donahue, my assistant, I watched everyone stream into the building to hear the announcement. And all of them were surrounded by the unique beauty of the campus. That moment was deeply moving. I felt like I was being greeted and welcomed home by family I hadn't met yet. Someone said, as I left the building, "The strength of the hills is hers also!" and tears came to my eyes. After the announcement we very quickly began the hard work of getting to know the community.

**MC:** What advice did our former president, Ron Liebowitz, share with you that has stood out to you?

**LP:** Ron and I have very similar energy levels and perspectives on how forward-looking higher education needs

to be. We talked about many topics and had a really smooth transition, and I think his perspective on keeping this creative energy alive at Middlebury was most helpful. The continuity of vision was a great blessing.

**MC:** What are lessons you have learned from the students of the College so far?

**LP:** Middlebury students are extraordinary and I have been spending a lot of time with them. They want to be creative and they want the College to get out of the way and help them do that. I have learned about next steps on sustainability; I have learned how they want to push us on more inclusive practices and I frequently feel that if I ask students to help I am going to get extraordinary responses. I am always cheered up when I spend time with students.

**MC:** Favorite memory or activity from your first J-term?

**LP:** One scavenger hunt team crafted a wonderful response to the presidential challenge, where they found a new community or artistic use for several of the scientific instruments in our special collections. It was fabulous! And then the next day I got all the sweaters that different teams had knit for Padma and Suka, my great Pyrenees dogs. Science, arts, community and sweaters – as they say in Yiddish: what's not to like?

## DON KJELLEREN LEAVES CCI

By Caroline Jaschke  
Staff Writer

On Feb. 5, Don Kjelleren resigned as Director of Professional and Career Development for the Center for Careers and Internships (CCI). He ended his 17 years at the College to become the Director of the Williams College Career Center.

Kjelleren will be replaced by Ursula Olender, Associate Dean of Students and Director of the Career Center at Amherst College, who will start on March 21. She has further experience as the Director of Career Services at Colgate University and the Associate Director of Career Services at Dartmouth College. In the interim, students looking for advising in finance, consulting and business can schedule appointments with Susan Walker, associate director at the CCI.

While at Middlebury, Kjelleren specialized in guiding students interested in finance, consulting and business. Sarah Sicular '16, a peer career advisor in the CCI, said, "So many students come in for finance and he had a huge personal network and always had all of the interests of his students at heart. I think a lot of students are really missing out that they don't get to have Don as their advisor. He helped build up the Middlebury pipeline to careers in finance."

During his career at the College, Kjelleren built up a large web of connections by networking with alumni, parents and companies visiting campus. Peggy Burns, Director of the CCI, reassures students that Ursula will be coming with that exact same network from her previous work, particularly at Colgate and Amherst. "We could not have asked for a more seamless transition," she said.

Besides spending time advising students, Kjelleren trains as a triathlete with world ranking. He also has enjoyed biking to work on warm summer days and swimming in the freezing cold of Lake Champlain.

About her colleague Burns said, "It was fun having someone in the office with this incredible athletic prowess and experience with extreme sports. He has a good sense of humor and he cared very much about the staff and the students."

Although Kjelleren says he will miss those bike rides, his colleagues and the students, he very much looks forward to in his new job. He is excited for the challenge of a tremendous growth opportunity. He said, "The culture and feel of the Williams Career Center is very different than Middlebury's, in part because the Center is housed in College Advancement and so there are about 90 professional staff running around at high speed doing great things."

While Kjelleren's colleagues are certainly sad to lose him to Williams, they are excited about the great opportunity ahead of him. Furthermore, he leaves an excellent finance and consulting program behind him, which according to Burns is a strong foundation that the CCI expects to build upon in the future.

Burns believes this foundation will only benefit from the new perspective Olender brings.

"Ursula is coming from a campus that has a strong commitment to diversity and it is something she is particularly passionate about," Burns said. "Her feet are firmly planted in the idea that these four years are a developmental process and she really wants to meet students where they are. She's very committed to making the career exploration process a little less scary for students."

Kjelleren leaves some parting words of advice, "Students, shift your focus from 'What do you want to do?' to 'Who do you want to be?' Be confident, dream big and don't settle for less."



COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS

Kjelleren spent 17 years working at the College.

## STUDENTS ORGANIZE ON CAMPUS FOR PRIMARY CANDIDATES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

work to get Clinton on the ballot in Vermont as well as several hour and a half trips to campaign in New Hampshire.

"At first we were just a small group of volunteers going over to New Hampshire to knock on some doors," Schwartz said. "Eventually, Hillary got close to 3,000 signatures in Vermont. We as a group collected about 700 of 800 of those. We've been in touch with higher up people as that hard work has been recognized. That's been very cool. We're working hard for her."

A range of opinions and allegiances exist within College Democrats and Republicans, but no one will dispute that the republicans are in the minority.

"It's a challenge in that the state is liberal, the College is liberal and college students in general are more likely to be liberal," Dublois said. "Our approach is this; we try to make our group to be as widespread and accommodating as possible. We encourage alternative and varying viewpoints under the republican label. We get people who aren't really sure. We've never had any issues come up, but it definitely is a minority opinion and that's always in the back of our minds whenever we do something. But we've had great success. This year our email list went from 10 to 60 which was a good improvement. We're gaining traction, so we'll see what happens."

Campaigning in Vermont — where 25 percent of the population is registered as volunteers for Sanders — is a unique experience for both his supporters and opponents.

"It certainly is tough, we're playing on his home turf and it's very natural that he'll have a lot of support," Schwartz said. "What we found is that explaining to people that their signature was just to put Secretary Clinton on the ballot was helpful. It's just saying that we want as many candidates for voters as possible. It's a bit of an uphill challenge, but we like it. It's tough work. We didn't get into it to be easy. She has to compete everywhere."

"There's definitely an outside sense that this is Bernie country and there's huge support for Bernie on this campus. The people who do support Hillary are very active in what they do," Millard said.

Debate parties have also had huge turnouts, reflecting the political energy on campus.

"There is a certain type of political camaraderie to viewing debates with people who share a like mind," Travis Wayne Sanderson '19 said.

"The attendance at debate screenings is just extraordinary," Lee said. "I don't see Middlebury being a particularly politically active campus; It's very academic, but even on school nights, during prime homework time, there are tons of people in McCullough watching the debates together."

## SGA Talks Inclusivity, MLK Event

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

their behalf. Cultural organizations exist for a reason and we should not try to take over their roles."

According to Gratch, the Senate has been discussing how the SGA can "better serve students of color and other marginalized students on campus" since the fall. This has included SGA members participating in town hall meetings to discuss what "real allyship looks like," and discussing various relevant initiatives. As well, the SGA is considering continuing the town hall meetings that Chief Diversity Officer and Professor of Spanish Miguel Fernández led in the fall.

"I think one overriding consensus we reached is that the Senate can and should do more to be actively reaching out to students whose voices aren't necessarily the loudest, particularly students of color and students of other marginalized identities, to ensure that we are doing our job as representatives and members of the Middlebury community," Gratch said.



## Senator Leahy Pledges Superdelegate Vote to Clinton

By Nick Garber  
Contributing Writer

Despite Sanders' 20-point margin of victory in Vermont's neighboring state of New Hampshire, Senator Patrick Leahy reiterated last week that he will continue to support Clinton's candidacy, and plans to cast his superdelegate vote in her favor.

Leahy and Sanders have served alongside each other in the Senate for almost a decade. Combined, the two men have over fifty years of experience in Washington.

Leahy has represented Vermont in the Senate since 1975, while Sanders was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1991, where he remained until his 2006 ascendance to the Senate. Both progressives, Sanders and Leahy have no drastic ideological disagreements. Nevertheless, Leahy represents the Democratic Party establishment in a way that Sanders, who only recently registered as a Democrat after decades as an Independent, does not. Leahy is a member of the Clinton campaign's "Vermont Leadership Council," a 25-person committee that includes state elites such as former Governor Howard Dean and incumbent Governor Peter Shumlin.

As a sitting Democratic Member of Congress, Leahy is automatically conferred the title of superdelegate — a delegate to the Democratic National Convention who is free to support any candidate for the party's nomination, unlike a typical delegate who is bound by the primary re-

sults of his or her home state. And while Sanders is widely expected to win easily in Vermont's March 1 primary election, Leahy says that he cannot go back on his pledge to support Clinton.

"One of the touchstones of our family — I learned it from my grandparents, I learned it from my parents and I've tried to teach my children — is you keep your word," he said. "Long before Senator Sanders ever said he was going to run, I urged then-Secretary Clinton to run and told her I'd support her. I think anybody who knows me, anybody who knows my years as state's attorney or my years in the Senate, knows that I'd never break my word. And certainly Senator Sanders would never ask me to break my word, nor has he."

Middlebury College Professor of Political Science Bert Johnson says that Leahy's consistency hardly comes as a surprise.

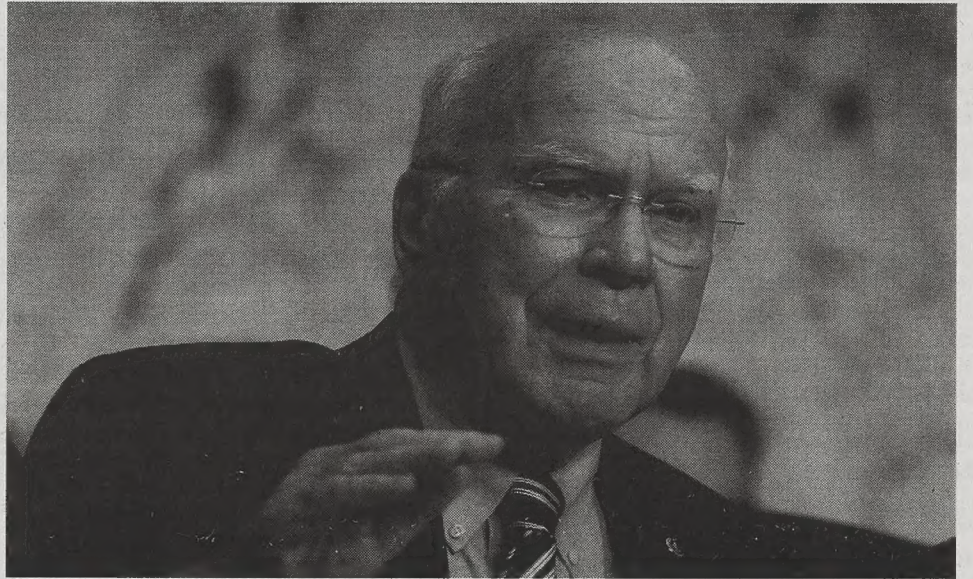
"It's not all that unusual for a superdelegate to support someone other than the most popular candidate in the state," Johnson said in an interview.

Indeed, as a forty-year incumbent who remains popular in his home state, Leahy recently scored a 71 percent approval rating among his constituents. Sanders is first among all Senators with 83 percent support.

Leahy has little to lose even by endorsing the eventual loser of his state's primary. Clinton remains the Democratic front-runner by virtually any metric, and while Sanders' resilience has proved surprising, he remains the undeniable

**"One of the touchstones of our family — I learned it from my parents, and I've tried to teach my children — is you keep your word."**

PATRICK LEAHY (D)  
VERMONT STATE SENATOR



COURTESY FAMM.ORG

Senator Leahy pledged his support for Hillary Clinton early in her presidential bid.

underdog as Super Tuesday looms on March 1. In other words, aside from his self-professed determination to keep his word, it also makes political sense for Leahy to align with the candidate who remains most likely to capture the nomination by August.

Yet if Clinton does come out on top, Johnson says that superdelegate votes like Leahy's will probably not be the deciding factor after all.

"I would be very surprised if the superdelegates were decisive in this election," Johnson said. "In 2008, when they had the potential to be decisive, they fell in line with the

leader among elected delegates, Barack Obama, even after Hillary Clinton had a substantial lead in superdelegate endorsements early in the campaign."

Indeed, however things shake out, Leahy made one thing clear: he is a Democrat above anything else.

"If Senator Sanders is the nominee, I'll happily campaign all over the country for him," said Leahy. "We've worked together, he's a good friend of mine, our wives are friends and I'm proud of a lot of the issues he's raised."

**"I would be very surprised if the superdelegates were decisive in this election. In 2008, when they had to potential to be decisive, they fell in line with the leader among elected delegates, Barack Obama."**

BERT JOHNSON  
PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

## Democratic Superdelegates Key to Sanders Campaign

Harry Cramer  
Local Editor

Bernie Sanders enjoys more popular support in Vermont than any other state in the nation. Yet even here, Sanders faces an uphill climb for the Democratic nomination. The reason: superdelegates.

As Ben Kamisar explains in *the Hill*, superdelegates are "state party insiders given the freedom to support any candidate they choose."

Nationally, they are choosing Clinton over Sanders in large margins. Currently, Sanders has won the support of only 19 party-loyalists, to Clinton's 451. Even in Vermont, of the nine superdelegates voting on Super Tuesday (March 1), four have pledged to support Hillary Clinton and three are undecided. Only two have pledged to support Sanders — including himself.

Superdelegates hurt Sanders badly in New Hampshire. Although he trounced Clinton in the state primary, winning 15 delegates to her nine, Clinton had already secured the votes of six party-loyalists, which put her at a virtual tie with Sanders.

On Super Tuesday, the Clinton campaign hopes to use superdelegate support to pull away entirely. The super-

delegate system, which *The Guardian* has described as a "ticking time-bomb" for the Democratic Primary, were first established in 1984 by Democratic party leaders. They were designed in order to prevent the most ideologically polarizing members of the party, who could not win in a general election, from getting nominated. They were a response to the Presidential Election of 1972, when George McGovern was trounced by Richard Nixon. McGovern was beaten in every state in the nation except for Massachusetts, and won only 37 percent of the popular vote.

In the 2016 race, superdelegates are choosing Clinton over Sanders for the same reason. "I told her if she decided to run I would support her and would be willing to do whatever she likes," said Senator Leahy (D) of Vermont. "I've made no secret of that ever since then."

Sanders has been fighting to keep the momentum moving forward. In an interview on *Face the Nation* last week, Sanders explained that he hoped to woo fellow superdelegates in the coming week.

"If we continue to do well around the country and if superdelegates—whose main interest in life is to make sure that we do not have a Republican in the White House—if they understand that I am the

candidate...best suited to defeat the Republican nominee, I think they will start coming over to us," Sanders said on the program.

Indeed, this is the cornerstone of the entire Sanders campaign: win early, and win big. Unlike normal delegates, superdelegates are unbound to the most popular candidates in their state, which could allow Sanders to take a larger piece of the pie even in states he does not win. The 2008 Obama campaign rode simi-

lar momentum to victory, and began at a comparable superdelegate deficit to Sanders.

On Reddit and other news forums, a grassroots effort is underway to change the superdelegate system entirely. One petition on MoveOn.org, stating "The race for the Democratic Party nomination should be decided by who gets the most votes, and not who has the most support from party insiders," has already gathered 175,000 signatures.



Presidential primaries

Last updated Feb 22, 2016 at 4:52 PM ET

REPUBLICAN

DEMOCRATIC

Delegates won

2,383 needed for nomination

■ Pledged delegates ■ Superdelegates

502

70



Clinton



Sanders

COURTESY GOOGLE

Clinton has captured 502 delegates to Sanders' 70, most of whom were party superdelegates.



# Shumlin to Sign Bill Requiring Paid Sick Leave in Vermont

By Rebecca Walker  
Local Editor

Vermont is revolutionizing the workplace, as the state has recently passed a bill requiring employers to provide paid sick leave for their workers. Currently, it is estimated that there are about 60,000 Vermonters who do not receive paid sick leave, many of whom are women who hold low-wage jobs.

The bill, H. 187, has been met with much debate, and the implications of the bill for the small businesses of Vermont have been hotly contested in the Vermont House and Senate.

The bill, which was given preliminary approval by the full Senate, would dictate that employers provide their workers with three sick days a year in 2017 and 2018, and then five sick days by 2019.

Jim Harrison, the Executive Director of the Vermont Retail and Grocers Association, claimed that the bill hurt businesses unable to afford the steep medical costs.

"[The bill] disproportionately impacts the smallest businesses in the state," Harrison said in an interview with *Vermont Public Radio*.

However, others see the benefits of this mandate as outweighing the risks it poses to small Vermont businesses. One of those people is Rutland Senator Kevin Mullin (R),

who ensures that the benefits of this bill entail "reduced employee turnover, the cost of productivity losses as a result of payment to ill workers who underperform while on the job, reduced spread of contagious diseases, reduced emergency room use and other health-related benefits."

This bill also benefits those who consume Vermont food products. Nationwide, 90 percent of food workers report that they go to work sick, and about 65 percent of foodborne illnesses are

the consequence of food handled by an ill person. Thus, there would be a public benefit to having paid sick leave as well.

Of course, this does not mean that there would be no cost to the businesses. In an announcement from the Legislature's Joint Fiscal Office, it is estimated that this healthcare mandate would cost businesses around 11 million dollars in additional labor costs when implemented in its most extreme form.

The Senate version of this bill would have some exceptions in its application. Federal employees, employees under 18, and those working less than 18 hours a week or 21 weeks a year would not qualify for this mandate.

During the debate, some proponents favored an exemption to the bill for businesses with five employees or fewer. If this bill did not apply to businesses with five employees or fewer, then 60 percent of Vermont businesses would not fit under the qualifications of the mandate. In turn, this means that approximately 22,000 workers in the state of Vermont would not be covered for their sick days and would be presumably contributing to the creation of an unhealthy

environment.

Eventually, after a dramatic vote-turnover, no exemptions were included for the small businesses.

Kris Jolin, a Capitol Connections lobbyist representing the National Federation of Independent Business noted his disapproval with the bill in an interview with Valley News.

**"This will no doubt come at a high cost to small businesses and will certainly have a serious effect on jobs and the economy in our state."**

KRIS JOLIN

CAPITOL CONNECTIONS LOBBYIST

"This will no doubt come at a high cost to small businesses," Jolin said, "and will certainly have a serious effect on jobs and the economy in our state. We implore members of the House to take into account the detrimental impact that imposing such a mandate will have on job creation and the difficulty that the small business sector will have in absorbing the price of this legislation."

The House did ultimately approve the Senate changes, and H. 187 is fully expected to be signed by Governor Shumlin in the near future.

Vermont will become the fifth state to mandate paid sick leave for employees.

"In mindfulness one is not only restful and happy, but alert and awake. Meditation is not an evasion; it is a serene encounter with reality"  
- Thich Nhat Hanh

## Guided Meditation

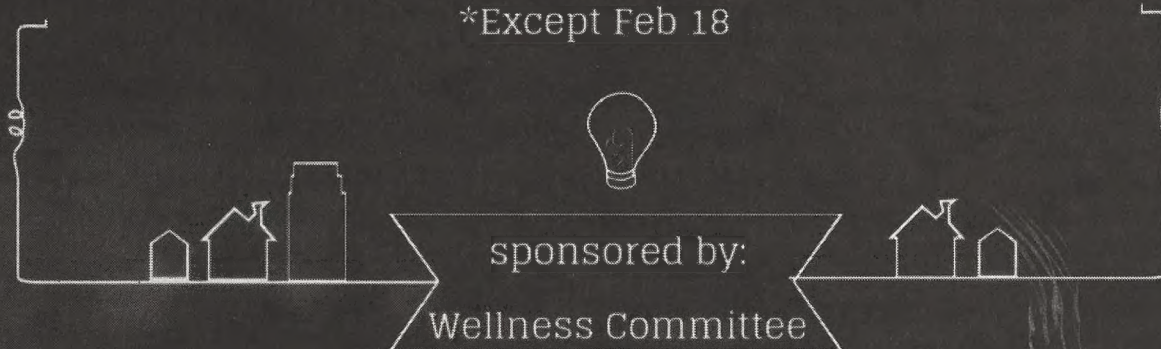
with

Chessy Kelley

in

Forest East Lounge  
Tues/Thurs 12:30-1:15  
Feb 16-May 24\*

\*Except Feb 18



Free for the campus community.



# OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

## A Paper for the People

Issues related to race, privilege and language have been frequently and publicly discussed on our campus in the last few months. Town-hall forums were

### EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of The Middlebury Campus.

incited powerful and pointed reactions. Katrina Drury's "I'm Only Human" is one

orchestrated by Miguel Fernandez, Chief Diversity Officer and Professor of Spanish. Numerous op-eds have been published. Some of these op-eds have

of them.

Many have disagreed with Drury's statements. We commend those who have voiced their dissent. Others have taken issue with *The Campus*' decision to publish Drury's op-ed. Some of the pieces we publish are undoubtedly controversial. While the editorial board takes issue with the content of Drury's argument, we stand by our decision to publish it.

First, we would like to clarify our publication process. Any member of the Middlebury community is welcome to submit a "Reader Op-ed" to *The Campus*. These "Reader Op-eds" are not submitted by members of the editorial board; pieces written by editorial board members are traditionally labeled "Notes from the Desk." Opinions of the editorial board as a group can also — of course — be found in our editorials; read the Dec. 9 editorial, "A Call for Compassion," for our board's thoughts on race, cultural appropriation and language. In it we call on white students to proactively address racism: "our community must learn how to not be racist rather than simply how to not appear racist. This is not a chore; it is a vital and overdue opportunity."

"Reader Op-eds," however, come from community members who are not involved or affiliated with *The Campus*. These submissions must employ the same grammar and structure expected of newspapers. We do not accept articles that take the form of lists or poetry; there are other platforms on campus that publish this style of content. Likewise, "Reader Op-ed" submissions may not contain libel or violent threats, as indicated weekly in a disclaimer located in the grey section below the masthead: "*The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks."

If a submission follows these rules and is able to articulate an opinion — no mat-

ter how controversial that opinion may be — we will publish it. We do not wish to be selective in this manner; to deem one article worthy and another unworthy would give our editors power they ought not to have. This means that we publish content with which we agree, as well as content with which we disagree. *The Campus*' choice to publish an article is by no means equivalent to an endorsement. We do not solicit opinions from Middlebury students and we do not invent the ideas that are seen within the Opinions pages.

Some may wonder if publishing controversial pieces — pieces with the potential to offend — does our community any good. We'd argue that refusing to publish controversial pieces does the Middlebury community a disservice. Sometimes our op-eds contain incendiary ideas. Publishing a controversial opinion does not create a controversial opinion; it simply makes the opinion visible. Such visibility moves the reader to acknowledge that opinion's existence within our community.

Once an op-ed has been published, it can be challenged. It can be debated. It can be persuaded against, modified, embellished, satirized, reworded or transformed entirely. Readers — members of this community — can come together to address some of the most challenging issues of our time. We can educate one another. It is only by making arguments visible — and therefore susceptible to critique — that they can be confronted.

We believe that a controversial opinion, one held unchallenged in silence and secrecy, benefits no one. The opportunity to question one another's opinions can benefit us all. We are here to learn from one another, to understand histories and cultures with which we are not familiar, to discover the nuances between being "right" and "wrong." To defend, question and amend what we believe — vulnerable to the reckoning of our peers — we must first say what we believe out loud.

Many opinions submitted to *The Campus* are inflammatory and make members of our community feel unsafe. It has been

brought to our attention that a trigger warning could prevent undue emotional stress for many students. Although an article may not contain a direct threat (as described in the aforementioned disclaimer), we understand that one can still feel threatened. However, the line between what is triggering and what is not is blurry and subjective; what is triggering to one student may not be triggering to another. The editorial board does not believe it should draw that distinction; to do so would serve in and of itself as a form of undue editorial power.

However, we understand that community standards may be shifting around what is acceptable speech. We hear those voices and we care. At the same time, we prize freedom of expression and don't want to limit it without very serious discussion from the student body about what exactly those standards are.

Thus, we provide a platform for all Middlebury students. We assume the risk that some of that content does not fit the criteria for a universally safe space. Censoring views that threaten us does not eliminate the existence of those views. There must be safe spaces at Middlebury, but they are not within the Opinions pages of the paper. The assumption must be that content within has the potential to make one feel uncomfortable. This paper cannot be any safer than the voices that exist on the campus it reflects.

*The Campus* gives students space to voice their opinions. No one event or opinion should define this publication. This section is a reflection of the submissions we receive. If you feel your opinion is underrepresented in *The Campus*, we urge you to write your own "Reader Op-ed." As a predominantly white editorial board, we acknowledge the distrust that minority students may hold for this publication. We are looking for ways to make this space more inclusive. *The Campus* is the student newspaper. You, the student body, are the curators of our content. We encourage you to write — and respond — with a sense of duty, compassion and integrity.

### The Middlebury Campus

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## If We Vote Bernie, We Have to Own It

I came very close to passing up Bernie's big dreams for the sake of rationality last week. But in the end, I sent in my ballot for the Vermont primary with a

### READER OP-ED

Day Robins '17 is from Humboldt, CA

vote for Bernie, thanks to my naive faith in America's most unreliable electorate (I'm not kidding).

Like many millennials, I initially jumped at the opportunity to support a candidate whose vision and views on issues are almost exactly aligned with my own beliefs about what America should look like. I've also been a long-time supporter of Bernie and am especially inspired by his enthusiasm to reform the way our campaigns are financed. But something about seeing Hillary's name on my absentee ballot last week made me stop and think: by passing up an opportunity to support an icon of the Democratic establishment, am I jeopardizing the Democratic Party's chance of winning the general election?

I realize that Bernie's campaign is, or at least was, largely symbolic and that his chances of winning the nomination are slim at best. (For more on Bernie's slim chance, just ask any Political Science professor here). But I think we should at least consider what happens if Bernie becomes the nominee.

Voting for Bernie, the democratic socialist from Vermont, essentially means that you think the current political system (largely controlled by wealthy individuals and corporate interests) isn't working. You reject the consumerist, me-first way of life of our parents' generation and envision a more sustainable, more caring and more economically just

America. You recognize, given the degree to which the American political spectrum has shifted rightward, that Bernie's progressive proposals — such as free college tuition and universal health care — really aren't that radical and should therefore be taken seriously.

Voting for Hillary, at least for me, would have meant that I was content with the pragmatic, incremental changes that she's proposed, and that I was skeptical of Bernie's ability to beat a Republican nominee — and maybe even his ability to run the country.

In the final moments before casting my vote, holding my pen over the bubbles on my ballot, it was Bernie's dubious electability in a general election that almost gave Hillary my vote. Even former MIT Professor and social activist

Noam Chomsky admitted in a recent interview with TruthDig that Hillary would likely have an easier time defeating a Republican nominee.

A lot of my concern stems from the fact that Bernie has yet to be tested. If Bernie's the Democratic nominee, big money will throw an insane amount of negative advertising at uninformed

**"Fortunately, millennials now make up about 37 percent of voters. If we were to vote at our capacity, we'd be the country's largest voting bloc. So, essentially, the choice is ours."**

Americans — advertising that will likely associate Bernie with the apocalypse, a false description of the New Deal socialism that he actually stands for, and who knows what else. That's what we Bernie supporters could be up against in the general election.

Fortunately, millennials now make up about 36 percent of eligible voters. If we were to vote at our capacity, we'd be the country's largest voting bloc. So, essentially, the choice is ours.

But, if like me, you do vote for Bernie, you have to own it. If Bernie wins because of idealistic people like us, then we must translate our faith into action. That means we not only have to turnout in a general election, but we must also inspire our friends to do the same.



# Talk About It, Would Ya?

I wrote an article last semester on mental health on campus. Here is why this problem is still relevant.

I am a human being attending college.

## READER OP-ED

**Maddie Hoar '17.5** is from Wellesley, MA

If you are reading this, chances are you are also a human being attending college. The current population of students in college is experiencing an incredibly high rate of mental health issues. The National Institute of Health found that nearly one in ten people between the age of 18 and 25 will experience a major depressive episode. One in three young adults will have an anxiety disorder. Although women are twice as likely to experience a depressive episode and 60 percent more likely to have an anxiety disorder, these are issues that are extensively affecting the entire

college-age population. Depression and anxiety are not the only mental health issues at hand. Eating disorders, trauma, OCD and more are endemic on college campuses.

Some factors exacerbate these problems for our generation; UCLA found that people are spending an average of six hours a week on social media. Multiple studies — such as one by Johan Bollen at Indiana University — have found that time on social media is inversely correlated with happiness. Technology is not the only problematic factor. According to a 2014 report by the Council of Economic Advisers, more students than ever are relying on loans to pay for secondary educa-

tion. There are many social, economic and academic pressures at this age and in this type of community.

There are two primary reasons for my

interest in the extreme prevalence of mental health issues in college. The first is that, after working in a neuroscience lab

that studies depression, I became more aware of the detrimental effect that mental health struggles have on daily life, and that the biological origins of these struggles have yet to be fully explained. The second reason is that, after countless conversations with seemingly happy but

secretly very unhappy people, I have come to the conclusion that everyone has their own demons. The reality is that these demons go completely unacknowledged or ignored because they are not considered “societally acceptable” to discuss.

Therefore, I have decided to spend my semester examining all aspects of the college-age experience that contribute to the prevalence of mental health issues. I am doing an independent study that will involve looking each week at a different contributing factor to this concern, ranging from the scientific to the subjective. I do so with the hope of finding some way to ameliorate the problem, as well as reduce the stigma that often comes with conversations about mental health. If you have a story that you feel is untold — or any opinion on the matter — feel free to reach out and help me paint a more informed picture of these issues (mhoar@middlebury.edu).

**“The National Institute of Health found the nearly one in ten people between the age of 18 and 25 will experience a major depressive episode.”**

# The Inclusion of Our Humanity

Dear Katrina,

As always, the willingness to put pen to paper, with a signature, and publish it in a public forum is important and admirable. Thank you for taking the time to write and for offering your thoughts. As I understood your op-ed, you are

## READER OP-ED

**Jonathan Miller-Lane** is the Director of the Education Studies Program

deeply frustrated with what you perceive to be hyper-sensitivity among many students. You wrote, “We have developed such a thin skin, taking everything personally and getting offended at the tiniest things. We’re lucky that we live in a country where we have the kind of luxury to whine about people hurting our feelings.” I would actually argue that feelings matter and the fact that you shared your feelings so passionately is affirmation of that claim. But, what really confused me about your statement was that in all three public forums that I attended, and in conversations, I have never heard anyone talk about ‘hurt feelings’ nor did I hear anyone asking for any kind of censorship. Rather, what I heard, repeatedly, was a call for all of us to imagine and be curious about how patterns of behavior, both personal and institutional, that are often taken at face value as neutral are, in fact, hostile and exclusionary.

One way to think about this is to call to mind the ‘melting pot’ metaphor. Gen-

erally, the term refers to the idea that the unique cultural identity of the USA is made through the assimilation or ‘melting’ of previously distinct ethnic groups or cultures into one. Sounds nice and inclusive. But, an interesting question to ask is, “Who is in charge of stirring the pot?” In my experience, when most “White” people are asked to reflect on this question they realize that they had assumed that a “White” person was always in control of the stirring. If you are “White,” and someone of a different gender, or ethnicity, race, sexuality was stirring the pot would you jump in?

(And it is worth remembering that, historically, few have had much of a choice). In other words, are you willing to adapt and change to others in a way that they have been required to adapt? Suddenly, what was presumed to be a warm, friendly, non-ideological space where everyone assimilates becomes not so warm and friendly when I/“White” person has to relinquish control. Turns out the melting pot does not refer to the melding of everyone into some new, hybrid expression of unity, but an effort to demand that everyone adapt to “White” norms.

Maybe, that thin skin is actually my own as I realize that I do not want to blend/listen/change.

The realization that the melting pot is not a neutral space is akin to the transition from ‘diversity’ to ‘inclusion’ on college campuses. Diversity is the effort to ensure that historically under-represented groups are given fair and equal opportunities to enjoy a college education.

**“Inclusion requires the institution — which means each and every one of us — to examine long-standing patterns and norms that those who are from the dominant group thought were neutral, but that actually create hostile environments.”**

Under the ‘diversity’ mindset, the institution is assumed to be a neutral place where everyone can succeed if they just work hard. The institution does not need to change because, you know, it is fine and exists in some mythically neutral space of higher education. If you are having problems, it must be you. You just need better mentoring. But, after decades of ‘diversity’ initiatives, more and more students challenged this assumption as they experienced an intense and deep cost to ‘success.’ Turns out places of higher education like Middlebury are not neutral spaces at all — they are filled with all sorts of restrictive norms regarding ‘appropriate’ behavior, what a ‘normal’ student looks like, literally, what counts as worthy of academic in-

vestigation and what does not, and, and, and. Like the melting pot, these restrictive norms come out of one particular cultural tradition that is now being challenged to realize the fact that it is one among many cultures not some neutral standard.

Thus, inclusion is the next, much more difficult evolution. Inclusion requires the institution — which means each and every one of us — to examine long-standing patterns and norms that those who are from the dominant group thought were neutral, but that actually create hostile environments. It is really important that each of us, in our multiple identities and multiple campus roles, recognize that the challenge of inclusion has nothing to do with ‘feelings’ in the manner in which we normally think. Again, in our forums and in various writings I have not heard any student complain about their feelings being hurt. What I heard, repeatedly, was a call to examine hostile and exclusionary patterns that are based on centuries of both intentionally exclusionary and just plain, thoughtless behavior. As a community, we must commit to staying curious and compassionate with one another as we continue to evolve. We are so new to this that there is already a sense of exhaustion. Well, get some rest everyone. We are just getting started.

Jonathan Miller-Lane  
Associate Professor & Director,  
Education Studies Program  
Faculty Head, Wonnacott Commons

# When the Micro Becomes Macro

We are writing directly in response to the op-ed from the last issue, “I’m Only Human.” The op-ed has upset a lot of people and has hurt a lot more. As demonstrated by the polarized comment section online, it unfortunately represents

## READER OP-ED

**Harry Cramer '16.5** is a Local Editor from Wellesley, MA and **Kahari Blue '19** is from New Haven, CT

the views of a sizable portion of the student body. And while censoring their views would not be productive, we must explain why they are misguided.

Cultural appropriation and microaggressions may appear trivial compared to the experiences of people like Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown and Sandra Bland. At Middlebury, people of color are not getting shot. But racism on this cam-

pus is very real.

Middlebury College, despite the wonderful education it provides, can be a painful and isolating place for many black students.

“You’re kinda an OreO. Black on the outside and white on the inside!”

“I don’t really see you as a black person.”

These comments can shape how students of color perceive themselves at Middlebury. We might feel weak or inferior when

people use the n word; as “ghetto” when people appropriate the ghetto; or as unintelligent when people joke about the way we speak.

True, a white student saying the n-word is not an international crisis like

Syria or Boko Haram, which the author cited as “more important things to worry about.” But the accumulation of microaggressions is a macroaggression. They shape how minorities are treated in the real world. Seeing black people as “ag-

**“When we leave Middlebury we will become law-enforcement, teachers and parents. At that time, the argument over ‘micro’ or ‘macro’ issues parodies itself: Inequality is inequality, and prejudice is prejudice.”**

gressive” can trigger police brutality, and seeing them as “stupid” could inhibit their ability to get hired. This prejudice is just the top layer of a worldview that systematically exploits people of color, and a litany of others, so it is crucial that we challenge it here at Middlebury.

In an effort to ignore this reality, some advocate a form of perverted humanism — the idea that we can all get along with each other on the understanding that

we are all human beings, not as “black, white, gay or straight.” Some may think, “We all are human, and ought not worry about differences like gender, sexuality or race. Progress is sloppy, and we shouldn’t be monitoring our own speech or behavior. Make mistakes, think big and don’t take anything personally!”

This is callous. Like it or not, we do not live in a post-racial society. Even children, from a very early age, begin distinguishing between different races. We should acknowledge the reality we live in, instead of inventing another, even if it does make life more complicated.

And one final point: As students, we are not as removed from the real world as we would like to think. When we leave Middlebury we will become law-enforcement, teachers and parents. At that time, the argument over ‘micro’ or ‘macro’ issues parodies itself: Inequality is inequality, and prejudice is prejudice. And respecting the dignity of all people should not be a chore.



# Use Tact Next Time

I face lingering disappointment after re-reading Katrina Drury's piece "I'm Only Human," published on Feb. 18. On the other side of the fold, a column over, Laurie Patton offers timely, levelheaded comments on the much-discussed Texas Supreme Court case, which questions the role of race in college admission procedures. In concluding remarks, President

## READER OP-ED

Zane Anthony '17  
is from Annapolis, MD

Patton calls for compassion and more "worthwhile" discourse on issues of race and identity: "Let us recommit ourselves to the spirit of understanding," she says.

I commend Drury for adding her thoughts to the years-long campus de-

bates on diversity, privilege and power, though I am skeptical, therein, of her efforts to reach for a "spirit of understanding." Core to her piece is her belief that school-wide expectations surrounding political correctness and "microaggression" are a kind of white censorship and thus hold no social merit. "I don't care about being politically correct," Drury writes, on these expectations, "and if people don't like my opinion, so be it... I hate having to censor every word I utter and monitor every action I make just to avoid offending

someone and being branded as a racist..."

Drury's display of hatred is worrying. She disregards and demonizes the every-

**"In my eight years of mobilizing around a cause, I have learned that respect and understanding is critical. There's tact — an art form — in making a point, even to contenders; subversiveness is not part of that dance."**

day troubles of minority students, which, since my first weeks at the College, have been aired widely to me and in this paper. Her central arguments — "we have developed thin skin," "we have the luxury to whine about people hurting our feelings" and "why can't we all just be human and

love each other" — are homespun at best. In my six semesters collaborating with Middlebury students, I have never read

more uncomplicated claims or insensitive language. And what's unsettling here is Drury's tone in casting her assertions: it is divisive and untactful.

As Drury's peer, I am irked. As a Middlebury student, I am discouraged by my college. As an organizer for the environment, I feel a duty to emphasize the importance of empathy. In my eight years of mobilizing around a cause, I have learned that respect and understanding is critical. There's tact — an art form — in making a point, even to contenders; subversiveness is not part of that dance.

If all else, Drury, your words have sounded an alarm in this community; I give you that. They bear testimony that a fully-realized diversity, equity and inclusiveness at today's Middlebury College remains a pipe dream. All things considered as a school in this milieu we are still in a stage of diagnosis, much less care or prevention.

# We Are All Humans

Dear Katrina,

I want to thank you for letting us hear your story. Thank you for saying what you really mean to say. It is only through such difficult dialogue that understanding may ever begin. So thank you again

## READER OP-ED

Shan Zeng '19 is from Chengdu, China.

for being yourself.

I totally agree with you. Political correctness means nothing. Back home, I was never a good player in that rope tightening game — straighten your back, hold on to your balancing beam and keep yourself on the thin black line. Watch your mouth because Big Brother is watching. I hated that and I still do now. My home country has taught me not to put my faith in political correctness. It is a world where the meanings of words are lost. People can say anything. But in the end, what matters most is often what is not said, right?

I cannot agree with you when you say "just to avoid offending someone." It is not "just." "It" is not just. To reference my favorite quote from Oscar Wilde, "The truth is rarely pure and never simple." For people like me, this over-complication is not a matter of choice. This complexity, this barrier, these shackles and mantles are what we bear

and navigate every day of our life. They have been there before I was born. Life is indeed complicated enough. I used to wish I could forget about all these complexities as well. I wish everyone could forget about them so that I didn't have to white-wash myself, to tweak my accent and ignore everything that reminds people of what I wish they could forget. Only recently did I realize maybe these are things I don't want to forget. These are things that are part of me and define who I am. To forget would mean to lose myself. Some differences are not just skin-deep. They run in my blood.

We are all different. But our differences will not stop us. Today, it is less difficult to see the shared humanness in us. Darwin and genetic studies have made that point for us quite strongly. The greatest challenge for our world today — and for our generation in particular — is not to un-see the differences, but rather, to embrace each other nevertheless. Love is about seeing, knowing and accepting completely, including our differences. How can we love people if we do not even start to see and understand the differences?

There must have been wounds deep enough to make these hearts so sensitive, that what seems like a light touch can trigger painful experiences. And if the same system and institution that inflicted these pains is still running, we shall not forget. I agree that there are things

more important than the act of donning a sombrero, namely the implications behind it: systematic discrimination, prejudice and indifference, just to list a few. These things are around us, in this country. Just because they are less visible does not make them less serious, urgent or important. Let's talk about our differences and what caused them, and then try to understand them.

There is a Confucius saying, "Xiu Shen, Qi Jia, Zhi Guo, Ping Tian Xia." Jesus also said, "Love thy neighbor." So I want to talk about love. I believe love is about empathy. Love is an art, a craft and an effort. I think one of the most common misconceptions in our contemporary society is that love is supposed to be easy. We are taught to believe that if love goes through ups and downs — if it is tiring, upsetting or painful — you should just throw away that love. That is simply not the case, and I recommend Erich Fromm's *The Art of Loving* for an excellent elaboration on this. If we

are really trying to love and understand each other, we must not let the consumerist culture infiltrate into our concept of love. This journey will not be easy, simple or convenient. There are so many obstacles, including historical legacies, class, race, prejudice, stereotype, ignorance, misconception, hate, fear and indifference.

If we know that taking a class or playing a sport requires time and effort, we should not expect that love, one of the most amazing human achievements, should always be smooth-sailing.

The path to a truly inclusive campus is long and tough. We will make mistakes and get tired, for we are all only human. Yet whenever I feel depressed about this world, I too look to the encouraging words of Morrie: "To love." Simple. Concise. A verb. And that's what all it's about.

Love, Shan

**"These things are around us, in this country. Just because they are less visible does not make them less serious, urgent or important. Let's talk about our differences and what caused them and then try to understand them."**

# Conservatism Today

Politics today seems to be more about shouting insults than offering solutions. Fox, MSNBC, Donald Trump, all seem to be more interested in ratings than the issues faced by every day Ameri-

## READER OP-ED

Phil Hoxie '17.5 is from  
Orinda, CA and  
Alexander Khan '17  
is from Phoenix, AZ

cans. At this point, we are all numb to it. For years we have looked at politics in terms of red and blue and have failed to consider the motivations of our counterparts. We have refused to listen to any opposing ideas, and arguments now occur more frequently than discussions. As students at Middlebury College, we see this occurring on a daily basis. This has led us to a point where progress no longer seems possible. We believe that progress can be made with thoughtful

political discourse. To us it seems that the solution to our current problem lies in better understanding the values and principles that guide us. In this spirit, we would like to introduce our values and principles.

We believe that every person has the right to work towards achieving his or her dreams.

We believe that every American is a unique individual and not simply a member of a group. We believe that each individual knows how best to achieve his or her own happiness. We are conservatives.

With Donald Trump and Ted Cruz both throwing around the word conservative so much, it is often forgotten what

the word really means. When defining conservatism, it is important to remember what is being conserved. Fundamental to conservatism is the preservation of our founding principles, the right to life,

liberty, property and the federal structure of our nation. These principles guide our understanding of policy, the role of government and how we solve the many issues facing our nation today. It is clear from this that Donald Trump and Ted Cruz

are more concerned with promoting populism and the values of the religious right than in conserving these principles.

Conservatives care about the first generation college student who could not

**"We believe that every American is a unique individual and not simply a member of a group. We believe that each individual knows how best to achieve his or her own happiness. We are Conservatives."**

find a job. Conservatives care about the little girl who grew up in a poor neighborhood who was forced to go to a failing school when there was a successful one a district over. Conservatives care about the skilled immigrant who wants to start an auto shop, but does not have the money nor the English skills to comply with the licensing requirements. Conservatives care about the single mother who has to work multiple part-time jobs because she cannot find full time employment. Conservatives care about the average American.

We need to change the way that we go about our political discourse, and we want this article to start the discussion. We hope that we can focus our conversation on policy solutions rather than political attacks, and we hope that we can go beyond the talking points and delve deeper into the substance of the issues. Only through thoughtful debate and discussion can we truly achieve a more perfect union.



# My Case for Affirmative Action

To the generally privileged, poverty is incomprehensible. People of privilege, with pale skin and/or free vacations and/or “intellectual conversation” — which is almost always defined by conformity to the standard of the privileged class — cannot understand how central poverty, or social disadvantage, can be to a person’s life. Disadvantage shapes every opportunity, thought and desire. While privileged students can afford SAT prep books, poorer ones may not even know what those three letters stand for. While privileged students can debate what college to go to, poorer ones are oftentimes unsure about going to college — or simply unable to do so.

## POVERTY PROSE

Travis Sanderson '19  
is from Las Vegas, NV

I am acquainted with certain types of disadvantages. My middle school was a tiny spot in the middle of the Mojave wasteland, a place where — two years after my family moved out — a war between Bloods and Crips erupted. Thinking about “college,” a term so distant and irrelevant that it bore absolutely no meaning, was unheard of. All conversations were combative, a show of masculinity or cruelty, often interlaced

with homophobic and racist slurs. Most of my friends were trapped, unable to imagine a reality outside of this de facto oppression that perpetuated itself with each successive generation. My friends’ parents couldn’t speak English — or at least the version of English that is deemed “correct” — and their livelihoods depended on the whims of the government’s “immigration policy.” Others were the products of the United States’ history of black oppression, of redlining and segregation never corrected. In the words of Ta-Nehisi Coates, they were “responsible for the worst actions of other black bodies, which, somehow, will always be assigned to [them].” Their livelihoods also depended on the whims of government and the ruling class — namely, the government’s constant debate on whether to be “tough on crime,” oppress-

ing the oppressed, or not.

I escaped merely because my family had the privilege of mobility, and of conforming to the ruling class’s standards. We were white, natively spoke English and could devote our time and resources to moving instead of surviving. We moved to Las Vegas, where I attended a public high school in a neighborhood known as one of the most dangerous spots in the county (a privilege compared to the many who remain trapped in the Mojave). There are more than three thousand students at that high school. Every class crams fifty students, and there are

never enough seats. I happened to be accepted on luck — literally, via a lottery — to a selected community within that public high school with more courses and increased availability. Although almost all of those students came from disadvantaged

families, pretty much all of them wanted to succeed academically. The privilege of that community allowed my escape. I learned that people were nice, what SATs were, that “college” actually existed. I am at Middlebury today because of the opportunities made available to me through that program.

These experiences inform my reaction to Rachel Frank’s “Conversation in Confines,” which was published last week. It’s frankly ridiculous that people of such disadvantage are oftentimes compared equally to students who face no obstacles but themselves, who have studied for the SATs since middle school, who come from backgrounds where college was “real.” I suffered disadvantage, but not nearly as much as many others face. Affirmative action is a means of making up for all of those obstacles; it is a basic step to actual equality of opportunity. To drop affirmative action is to confirm the immoral notion that the privileged have more of a right to attend colleges — to attend programs like my high school’s, which was the only reason I escaped — than those who face obstacles incomprehensible to the privileged.

Affirmative action is a moral requirement for more reasons than just the facilitation of “institutional diversity.”

***“To drop affirmative action is to confirm the immoral notion that the privileged have more of a right to attend colleges — to attend programs like my high school’s, which was the only reason I escaped — than those who face obstacles incomprehensible to the privileged.”***

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# The Caffeine Fix: Dining Ha

During Winter Term, the dining halls welcomed a new brew at the beverage station: coffee by local roaster Vermont Coffee Company. Based in Middlebury Vermont, coffee from the Vermont Coffee Company is fair-trade and certified organic. The move to serve it in the dining halls has allowed the College to meet its promise to serve 30 percent Real Food in the dining halls by 2016.

The switch from New England Coffee, served in dining halls previously, to Vermont Coffee Company, is receiving hearty approval from the student body.

In an online survey conducted by *The Campus*, 81 percent of the 105 students surveyed said they noticed a change in the dining hall coffee. Seventy percent of students said they “like” or “love” the new coffee, whereas only four percent of students reported liking the New England Coffee and 64 percent said they “disliked” or “detested” it. None of the students surveyed said they “loved” the old coffee.

The majority of students said that they like the new coffee because they think it has a better taste than a cup of the New England Coffee.

## The Decision to Switch

Executive Director of Food Service Operations Dan Detora was the driving force behind the move to Vermont Coffee Company. Detora explained to *The Campus* that refreshing the College’s coffee inventory has been on his radar since at least fall 2014 after Dining Services received multiple complaints.

“I don’t think it was anything specific, just the fact that we received a lot of [comments like], ‘The coffee is terrible,’” Detora said. “It just wasn’t a high-quality coffee.”

Detora considered a switch to Vermont Coffee Company’s locally-roasted, fair-trade organic coffee after the business moved to its new headquarters on Exchange Street. Last summer, VCC helped the College to secure specially sourced brews for the Language Schools’ 100 Year Celebration.

“We were trying to do desserts and coffees from different countries, and they helped us with that,” Detora explained.

Since then, Detora said the College has a “great relationship” with the Vermont Coffee Company. When Dining Services, in partnership with the SGA, decided to upgrade coffee in the dining halls, they chose Vermont Coffee Company to increase the College’s use of Real Food. Real Food is food that meets certain criteria such as ‘local- and community-based,’ ‘fair,’ ‘ecologically sound’ and ‘humane.’

“When President Leibowitz committed to 30 percent Real Food, we were at roughly 23-27 percent when he signed that agreement last year,” Detora said. “[Vermont Coffee Company] came in, and we did some tasting, but the big thing was that they met our Real Food criteria. That was about \$125,000 [of the dining budget] switched over to Real Food, which got us over that 30 percent to meet our goal. So we got a better product and better Real Food, and it was basically awash in terms of funding.”

The increased expense, however, encouraged Dining Services to economize. SGA President Ilana Gratch ’16 was collaborating with Detora to establish 10 O’clock Ross when Dining Services considered the coffee change. They decided to open Ross Dining Hall later on weekends, from 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. This minimized food waste and reduced labor costs, and helped shrink the expense of high-quality coffee.

## Eat Real Weighs In

Eat Real, the student group which encouraged the College to sign the Real Food agreement in 2014, published an op-ed entitled “Wake Up and Smell the (Fair-Trade, Organic) Coffee!” in *The Campus* in January, applauding the switch to the Vermont Coffee Company.

“We are excited by Dining Service’s commitment to supporting real food and the values real food represents,” said Eat Real Co-Presidents Sarah Koenigsberg ’17 and Elaine Forbush ’17 in their op-ed.

Eat Real has been collaborating with the College for the past three years by helping them identify foods served in the dining hall that could be switched to Real Foods without too much extra cost. In the past, Eat Real assisted Dining Services in their switch to local beef for hamburgers and local, organic tofu.

While Eat Real celebrates the improvements that the dining halls have embraced thus far, the group is far from satisfied. Eat Real research interns are currently examining other food options that could be switched to Real Foods like buying whole chickens as opposed to chicken breasts. Moreover, the interns are also working on collecting data to help encourage the College to bump up their Real Food agreement to 50 percent Real Food.

Eat Real urges the College and students to become cognizant of the changes they can provoke with their food choices.

“We encourage the Middlebury community to recognize the purchasing power we have as a residential college that feeds thousands of people multiple meals a day,” Koenigsberg and Forbush wrote. “It’s easy to forget the flaws inherent in our modern food system when we only see the food that magically appears in our buffets every day.”

## Coffee Sales Around Campus

According to survey, 39 percent of students report that they buy less coffee now than they did when New England Coffee was served in the dining halls.

How is this change affecting coffee sales at vendors around campus?

Detora said it’s too early to know. Vermont Coffee Company was available at Crossroads and Wilson Cafés before the upgrade inside the dining halls.

Birgitta Cheng ’17, one of four student managers of Crossroads Café, reports that coffee sales at Crossroads have remained consistent despite the new coffee in the dining halls.

“We cater to students on specialty drinks more [than drip coffee],” said Cheng. “Our drip coffee sales usually come from faculty and staff who come to get a drink between work shifts so they are not going to the dining hall anyways.”

Cheng estimates that Crossroads sells approximately 200 cups of coffee per day.

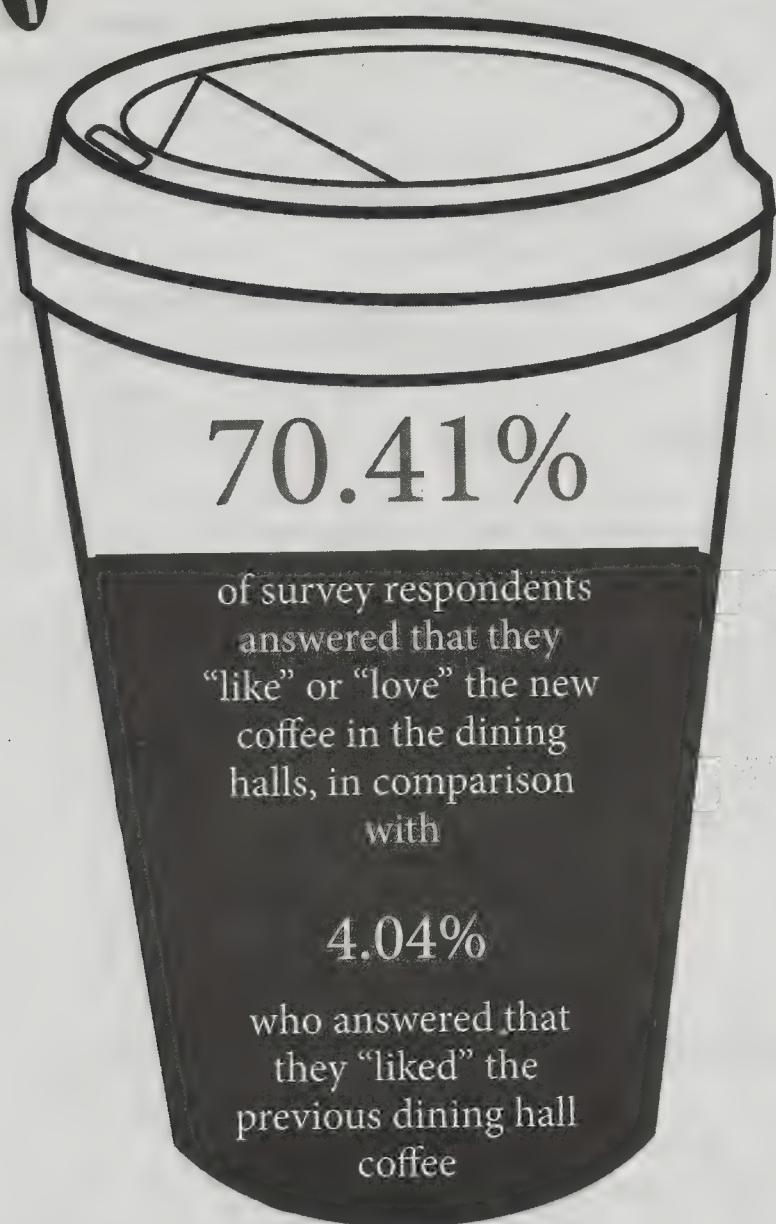
Still, even if sales at some College vendors do decline slightly, buying more coffee from the same vendor will lower costs for the College. Previously, College vendors bought coffee from 14 different coffee companies; Crossroads alone served three different companies’ coffee.

Now Vermont Coffee Company is the only coffee served anywhere at the College.

“Because we went to Vermont [Coffee Company], we increased our purchasing power with them,” Detora said. “They decreased the price of the product pretty considerably so we feel that any sales loss would be picked up by the price savings we have overall.”



# Hall Switches to A New Brew



When asked why they liked the new dining hall coffee,

**67.7%**

of respondents said that the new coffee tasted better

**23.66%**

of respondents said they liked the new coffee because it is fair trade or local

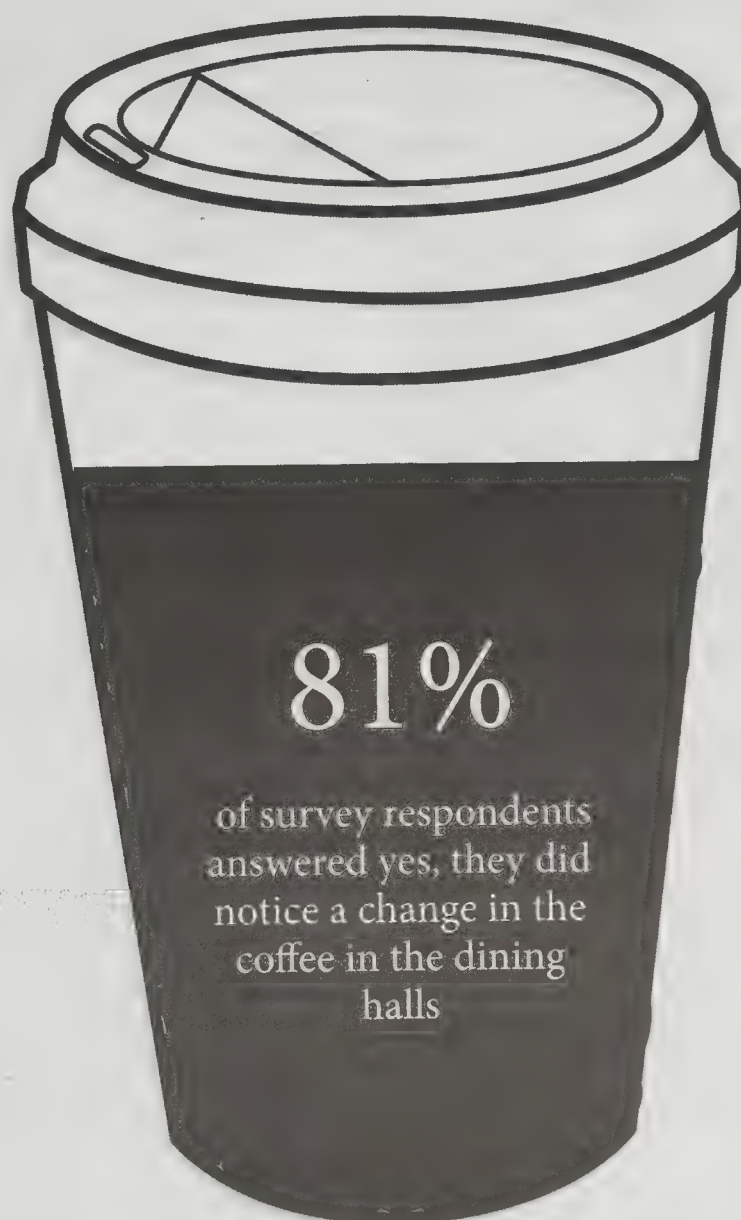


**31.52%**

of respondents said they drink more coffee now, after the dining hall coffee switch

**39.18%**

of respondents said they now buy less coffee from other vendors





# SGA Debuts Textbook Exchange Website to Lower Prices

By Henry Burnett  
Features Editor

In response to a Feb. 15 email in which the SGA announced a new online textbook exchange, *The Campus* decided to investigate how less expensive textbooks came to top the student government agenda. Last fall Neha Sharma '18.5 and Maya Woser '18, co-directors for the SGA Educational Affairs Committee, conducted an all-student poll that found a high demand for cheaper textbooks.

"Last year when we came together as a committee, we brainstormed ideas that we had ourselves of what could be improved in the community and when what we had been hearing from other people," Woser said. "The cost of textbooks was a major one that a lot of us in the committee had personally faced. The problem was so universal that we immediately knew that was something we wanted to focus on. We kind of just went from there."

In the email, the student EAC introduced Texts.com as "an online campus-wide student textbook exchange website where students can post details about

**"The problem was so universal that we immediately knew it was something we wanted to focus on."**

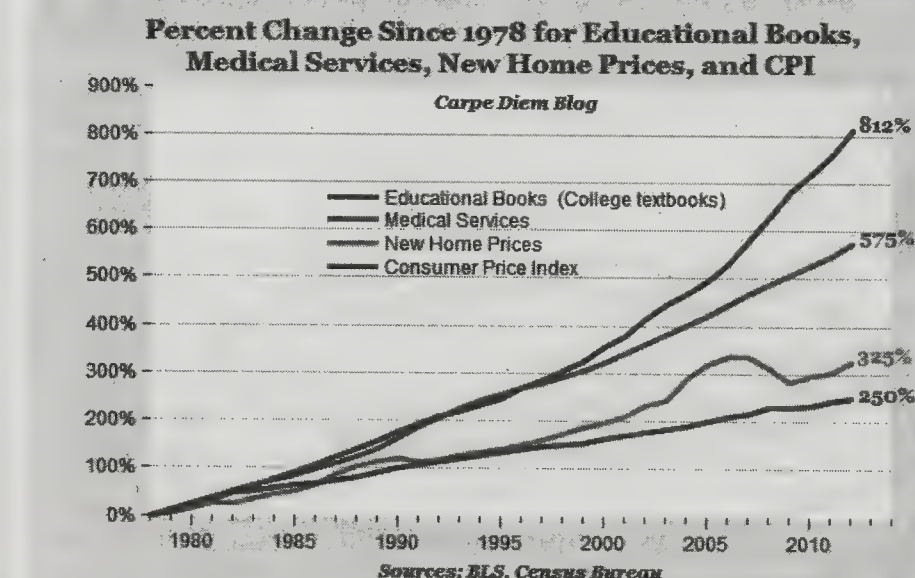
the textbooks they want to see." The site allows users to search for specific textbooks and compare prices with other sellers, including Amazon and AbeBooks. Texts.com charges no fees for students to join or schools to use, and it functions like a marketplace where college students can buy and sell used textbooks.

The Texts.com website references a study stating textbook prices have increased much faster than other consumer goods. According to a 2012 study by the American Enterprise Institute, the average price of a college textbook has gone up 812 percent since 1978, and has doubled in the past decade alone.

MAYA WOSER '18

Much of that increase, the website says, is ironically linked to used textbook exchanges such as Amazon and Chegg. Publishers earn revenue only from the initial sale of new books, and as new book sales have declined as used books become more available, publishers have increased prices and released new editions with minimal changes from year to year.

To combat the cost of new editions, the SGA Educational Affairs Committee met with Dean of the Faculty and VP for Academic Affairs Andrea Lloyd, Dean of



AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE

According to an American Enterprise Institute study, the average price of a college textbook has gone up by 812 percent since 1978, and doubled in the past decade.

the Library Michael Roy, and the chairs of several academic departments. They have encouraged departments across campus to agree to use one edition of a textbook for five years at a time. That way, students would be able to resell their books to other students rather than purchasing new books from the campus bookstore each year. The student EAC is also encouraging the library to buy more copies of textbooks for students to use while on reserve.

"One of the main reasons the library doesn't buy textbooks right now is because the textbook editions keep changing so often," Sharma said. "Especially language textbooks, where you don't really need the latest edition because it's the same thing you're teaching every year."

"They would be able to invest in a larger number of copies so more students would be able to access it," Woser added. "Also, if they agree on a certain edition for a number of years, then students' resale values are also easier. Otherwise you might buy a book, then nobody needs it next year because everyone needs the latest edition so you can't really sell it back."

**"One of the main reasons the library doesn't buy textbooks right now is because the textbook editions keep changing so often."**

NEHA SHARMA '18.5

As SGA EAC co-directors, Sharma and Woser chose Texts.com after looking at what steps peer schools have taken to reduce student textbook costs.

Sharma said that Texts.com is currently being used at Bates, Bowdoin and Yale. She and Woser contacted their student governments to gauge their satisfaction with the site, which was positive. They then contacted a company representative for Texts.com, who provided information about which schools were using it and what their feedback had been.

So far, about 200 books are on sale at the College website, [middlebury.texts.com](http://middlebury.texts.com). Sharma and Woser hope to launch a campaign near the end of the semester to let students know they can resell their books online.

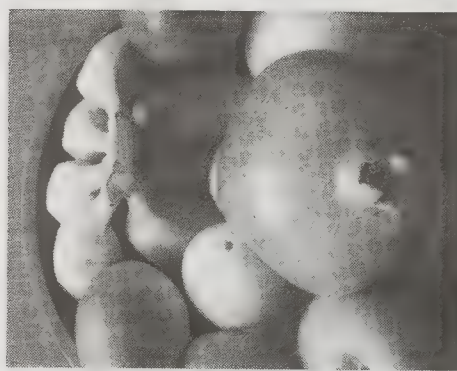
In the meantime, the student EAC is considering several other funding plans to make textbooks cheaper at Middlebury. Sharma said these possibilities are all "very preliminary," but they will all be independent of financial aid.

For more information, please visit [middlebury.texts.com](http://middlebury.texts.com). The SGA can be reached at [sga@middlebury.edu](mailto:sga@middlebury.edu).



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Middlebury.texts.com is one of three SGA initiatives, including an alumni fund and department agreements, to reduce the amount that students spend on textbooks.



## Wellness Tip of the Week

By Wellness Leaders  
Contributing Columnists

The Power of Touch

Remember to communicate through touch. The nurture and comfort that can be felt through a simple pat on the back or a hug can serve as powerful ways of healing. These small actions are in many ways profound, creating and spreading compassion among you and your peers.

## Students Organize for Hillary in Bernie Territory

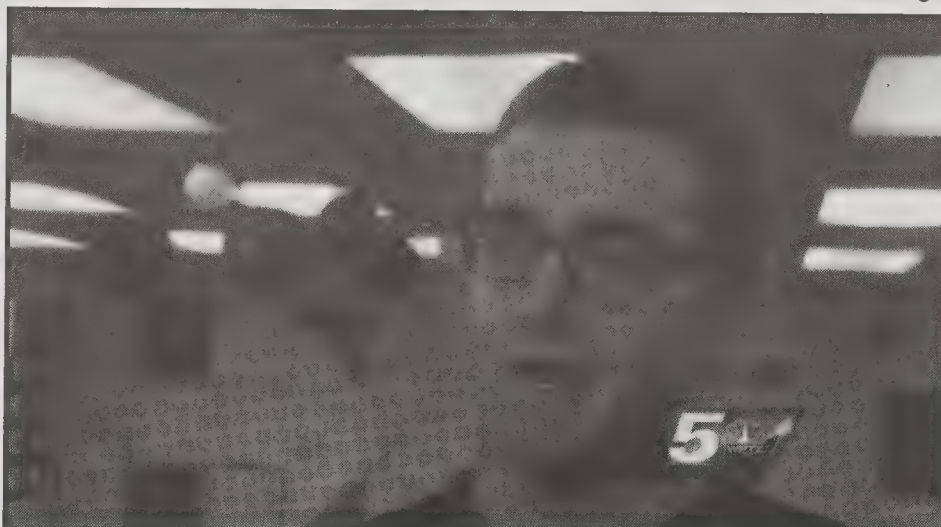
By Ethan Brady  
Features Editor

Months before Hillary Clinton declared her presidential candidacy online in April, leaders in the Democratic Party saw her as the destined choice to be the party's standard bearer in the 2016 election.

But no political pundit foresaw the rise of Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders in recent months, mostly shrugging when he declared his candidacy in May on the shores of Lake Champlain. In the New Hampshire primaries, Mr. Sanders swept the first-in-the-nation vote by a 22-point margin. Ms. Clinton managed a comfortable five-point victory in the Nevada caucuses.

And as the race tightens up in South Carolina and Super Tuesday states, where nearly 900 of the 4,192 available delegates will be allocated, the question becomes whether Sen. Sanders' message of political revolution can eventually — after a long slog to the Democratic National Convention which most pundits are predicting — secure him a first place finish. In this race, though, second place does not cut it.

For members of Middlebury Students for Hillary, the former first lady



WPTZ NEWS

Mitch Perry '16 was interviewed earlier this month by WPTZ, a Channel 5 news station in New Hampshire, about his volunteering for Hillary Clinton's campaign.

will always be number one. The group is not officially registered as a student organization, but they still hold events like phone banking and canvassing in Vermont and New Hampshire. They were present at the Democratic Debate watch party earlier in the fall and at the Iowa caucus watch party on Feb. 1.

Between these events, the Feb activities fair and tabling in Atwater

with a Hillary Clinton cutout, Middlebury Students For Hillary has extended their membership and presence.

"We continue to see our supporter list grow every time we reach out to students on campus," said Will Schwartz '16, the group's organizing lead.

President of the Middlebury College Democrats Hazel Millard '18 no-

Continued on Page 13.



# Death of Harper Lee at 89 Spurs Talk of Legacy

By Ethan Brady  
Features Editor

Harper Lee's beloved classic *To Kill a Mockingbird* was published in 1960 and won her the Pulitzer Prize in 1961. The zeitgeist novel depicted in bare terms racism in America and reaffirmed the values of equality and unity. The book has sold more than 40 million copies globally and has become a staple of high school curriculums. But despite the book's acclaim and instant success, Lee repeatedly vowed never to publish a novel again. For the next 56 years, she lived a private life in small-town Alabama and an anonymous one in New York City, her career a single gem.

Not long before she went dark to the public — just four years after the publication of *Mockingbird* and two years after the film version — Lee recast her literary objectives in a 1964 interview with Roy Newquist, the editor of a book titled *Counterpoint*. Perhaps because of the rarity of such encounters with Lee, the Newquist interview has become one of the few sources of material that illuminate her mystery. In it, Ms. Lee clearly stated her literary ambition: "to describe a disappearing way of small town, middle class Southern life. In other words, all I want is to be the Jane Austen of south Alabama."

Less often quoted than this statement is her explanation of it. She wanted to "leave some record of the kind of life that existed in a very small world. She hoped to do this "in several novels, to chronicle something that seems to be very quickly going down the drain."

Lee said she was always fascinated with the "very definite, rich social pattern" that makes up the tiny towns of the South. "I would simply like to put down all I know about this because I believe that there is something universal in this little world, something decent to be said for it, and something to lament in its passing."

Beyond Harper Lee's crowning achievement of *Mockingbird* and her lone interview with Newquist, the front-page obituary of Lee in Saturday's *New York Times* recalled the literary world's biggest story of 2015: the publishing of her second novel, *Go Set a Watchman*. The book, in all its controversy, is crucial to considering Lee's legacy, which had been fixated for more than half a century on one work. *Watchman* was met with a considerable amount of backlash, with some accusing Ms. Lee's publisher of taking advantage of her in her old age.

They raised eyebrows at the timing of the manuscript's discovery and

the announcement that it would be published, which was only weeks after the death of her sister, Alice Lee, who had long been Harper's confidante and whom many considered to have been her protector. Skeptics use reports of Lee's deteriorating state at the time the manuscript was discovered as evidence that she could have easily been coerced into agreeing to something she had not wanted for 56 years. "It would be very difficult to prove this one way or another," Bertolini said.

In a *New York Times* column, Joe Nocera called the book a "fraud" and "one of the epic money grabs in the modern history of American publishing." Jonathan Sturgeon wrote in *Flavorwire* that *Watchman* is not *Mockingbird's* sequel or prequel, but rather its prototype. Lee herself described the book as her first book's "parent." Sturgeon points to wholesale passages in *Watchman* that were later reworked for *Mockingbird*.

Pieces of literature have been published against some authors' wishes, noted John Bertolini, Ellis Professor of English and Liberal Arts. He noted Vergil and Franz Kafka as examples. "Of course the same thing happened with Kafka: he ordered that all his works be destroyed, but they weren't. Fortunately for all of us, Vergil's orders orders on his manuscript of the *Aeneid* weren't followed either."

With all the debate over the origins of *Watchman*, the biggest bomb-

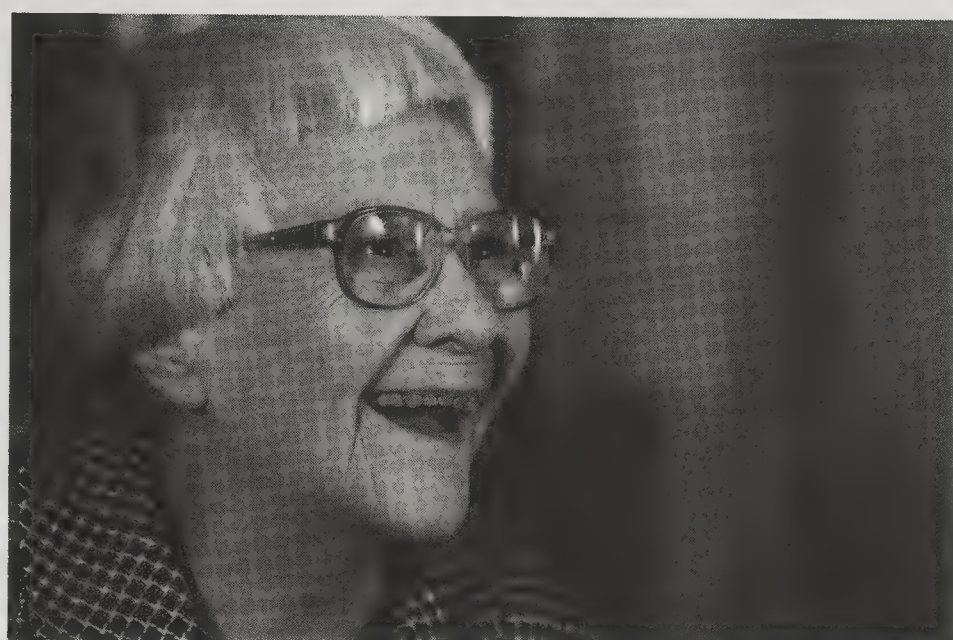
**"I would like to leave some record of the kind of life that existed in a very small world.**

**I would simply like to put down all I know about this because I believe that there is something universal in this little world, something decent to be said for it, and something to lament in its passing."**

HARPER LEE

shell turned out to be an explosive plot twist that no one saw coming. Atticus Finch, the crusading lawyer of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, whose principled fight against racism and inequality inspired generations of readers, is depicted in *Watchman* as an aging racist who has attended a Ku Klux Klan meeting, holds negative views about African-Americans and denounces desegregation efforts. "Do you want Negroes by the carload in our schools and churches and theaters? Do you want them in our world?" Atticus asks his daughter, Jean Louise — the adult Scout.

Bertolini said he was astonished by the reaction to the book. "It involved one of the most colossal misreadings



GETTY IMAGES

Harper Lee was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2007 for her contribution to literature.

of a book that I've seen. It was said that it turns out Atticus is a racist after all, and that's not, I believe, the point Harper Lee was making in that book. She was demonstrating that Atticus was continuing to educate Scout, and that he thought it was a flaw in her that she idealized him so much. He did that precisely to provoke her to think about his having a flaw, about his not being a perfect man."

The very fact that the manuscript exists, he said, means a lot. "The book

makes an important statement that should be read — about not blindly idealizing somebody, not expecting perfection from all human beings under all circumstances. Atticus may have done that deliberately to help to Scout grow up, to become a mature, understanding, forgiving human being. This is, after all, what he spent his whole life doing."

Claire Borre '18, an English major, said that *Watchman* complicates the emphatic depiction of Atticus as a hero and exposes his flaws to modern readers. "I read *Go Set a Watchman* as a completion of Scout's coming-of-age that was started in *To Kill a Mockingbird*," she said. "Having read *Mockingbird* as a young girl and then

reading *Watchman* this past summer, I connected to both in very different ways. Scout's first attempts at understanding the world, like my own, were heavily influenced by those around her, whereas Jean Louise, and myself as a college student, must learn to look inward for her own value."

Borre continued: "The more adult perception world presented is not as strictly good or evil as in *Mockingbird*, and Lee reveals a more nuanced worldview that makes people reevaluate their perception of the hero Atticus. It is a shattering of the hero image of Atticus."

Bertolini pointed to the strength of her first novel as a lasting part of her legacy. "*To Kill a Mockingbird*, both the book and the film, had an influence in the Civil Rights Movement that was analogous to the impact of Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* in persuading people to be against slavery. I first encountered it when I was in high school, first the book and then the film, which had a big influence on me. I will never forget that."

The general consensus among book critics is that *Go Set a Watchman* is not as well written as the masterpiece of *Mockingbird* is. "Isn't that true of all the secondary books by great authors?" said Bertolini. "They're usually much better than the best of the ones being published today, because true artistic talent and genius is a rare thing."

For all the excitement, confusion, surprise, drama and controversy, the world nevertheless has another Harper Lee work.

## Middlebury Students for Hillary Canvas Around New England

Continued from Page 12.

ticed that student support for individual candidates has solidified over the course of the academic year.

"Based on our weekly College Democrats meetings, it seemed to me that many students entered the school year with a vague sense of who they would support in the primaries," Milard said. "Over the course of the semester, opinions grew stronger and debate within the group got more heated. There are students on campus organizing for both candidates in the Democratic Primary."

Middlebury Students for Hillary also works on other projects, including gathering enough signatures from Vermonters to get Secretary Clinton on the ballot for the primary.

"The main goal of our efforts is to

interact with as many voters as possible to talk about the candidates, to find out what issues matter most to voters and to discuss where Secretary Clinton stands on those issues," said Mitch Perry '16, campaign liaison for Middlebury Students for Hillary.

He said getting enough signatures to get Secretary Clinton on the ballot in Vermont was "tougher than it sounds." Students from the group walked along Church Street and the Farmer's Market in Burlington on multiple weekends to ask people to sign the ballot access petition. Many people resisted stopping to talk in the cold weather, said Perry, but the people who did stop were "very interested in starting a dialogue and contributing to the political process."

Over February break, a group of students, including Schwartz, Perry

and Charlotte Boghossian '16, traveled to New Hampshire for four days to volunteer with "get out the vote" efforts. They made phone calls to N.H. voters, went door knocking and engaged in other campaign activities.

They also had the opportunity to hear from political figures like Senator Al Franken (D-MN) about why he and so many others are supporting Secretary Clinton.

"Despite Bernie's victory in the N.H. primary, it was a great opportunity to be in the center of the excitement and to learn more about grassroots organizing and campaigning," Perry said.

"For me, Secretary Clinton is the most qualified and most experienced candidate," he said. "I trust that she will use her experience as Secretary of State and as a U.S. Senator to take on

the tough foreign and domestic policy issues that the country faces. I joined the Middlebury for Hillary group to do my part in ensuring the most qualified and experienced candidate is elected as the country's next leader."

Middlebury Students for Hillary will continue to hold weekly phone banks on Thursday nights as the election progresses.

Middlebury Students for Hillary will be at the Super Tuesday viewing party in Crossroads Café, an event sponsored by the College Democrats, on March 1. To get involved with the group, contact Will Schwartz at [wschwartz@middlebury.edu](mailto:wschwartz@middlebury.edu).



# CARTOONS

The Middlebury Campus

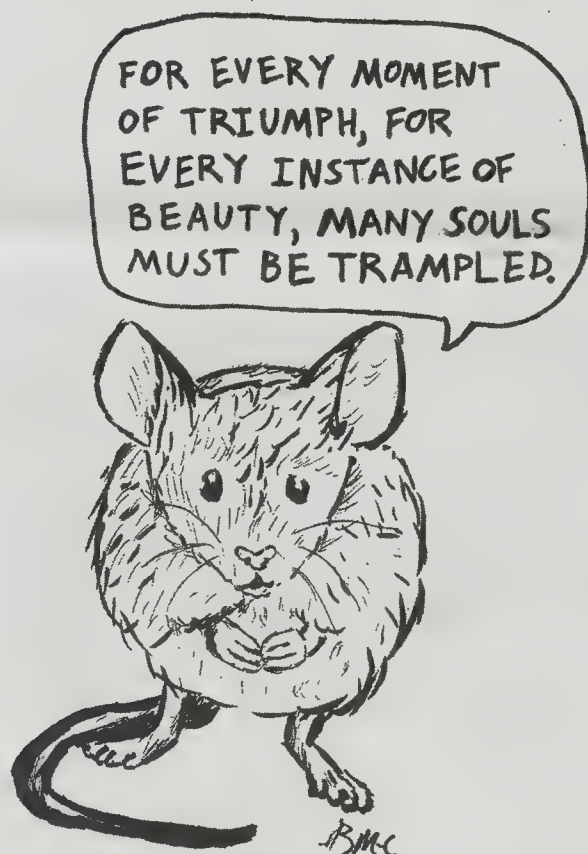
College Cats Abroad by Emily Cox go/comicsbyemily



EMILY COX



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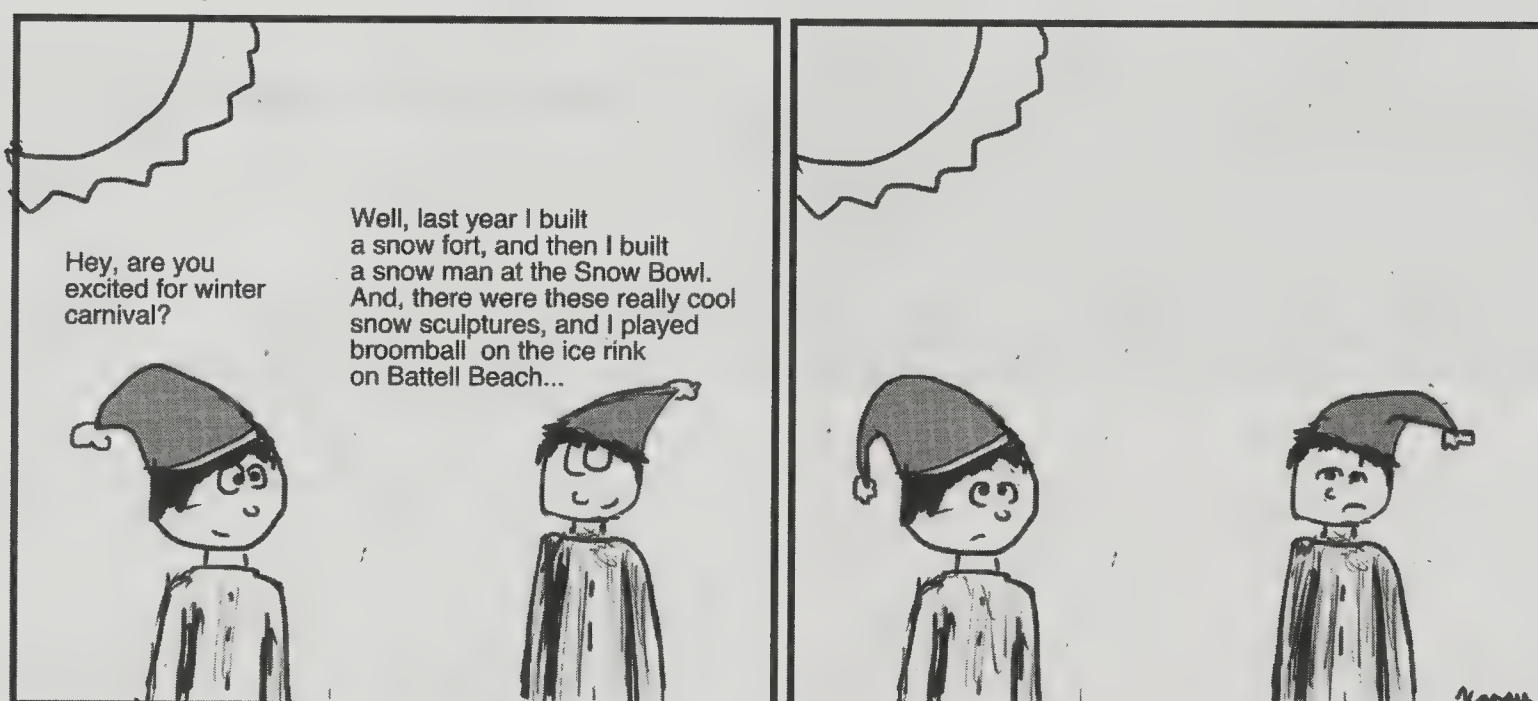


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KAITLYND COLLINS



VASU TANEJA



# ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

## Women of Will Showcases Shakespeare

By Will Simpson  
Staff Writer

In the Wright Memorial Theater last Saturday night, Feb. 20, a burgeoning audience waited impatiently for the beginning of "Force and Heat: The Early Plays," the first part of Tina Packer's show *Women of Will*. Alongside co-star Nigel Gore, Packer delivered an exhilarating analysis of the development of female characters throughout Shakespeare's early plays.

Packer, a renowned actor and playwright, is the founder and director of the Massachusetts-based Shakespeare & Company. Well versed in Shakespeare's works, she has directed and taught all of his plays at over 30 colleges in the U.S. Having begun her *Women of Will* project in the mid-1990s,

Packer took a break from the artistic directorship of Shakespeare & Company to focus on the *Women of Will* show and a book of the same name, which was published in 2015. Joining her in this performance of "Force and Heat: The Early Plays" was Nigel Gore, a veteran Shakespeare & Company actor whose credits include the title roles in *Richard III* and *Macbeth*. Both "Force and Heat" and their Sunday performance of "Chaos and Redemption: The Later Plays" were sponsored by the College's Performing Arts Series, the Theatre Program and the Town Hall Theater. *Women of Will* was brought to Middlebury as part of the Shakespeare celebrations centered around the month-long Middlebury College Museum of Art exhibition of "First Folio! The Book that Gave Us Shakespeare."

The show consists of a series of short

scenes sampled from early Shakespeare plays like *Twelfth Night* and *Antony and Cleopatra*, interspersed with short analyses of the scenes presented directly to the audience by Packer and Gore. Saturday's show began with a passionate scene from Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*. This play, controversial for its misogynistic elements, proved a powerful introduction. The first scene culminated with Packer struggling onstage with Gore's character, who sought to strangle her into submission with his belt. With practiced ease, Packer stepped out of the role and walked to the front of the stage as the house lights slowly turned on. Packer began introducing the performance and the material she would be analyzing, laying out the development of the female roles throughout Shakespeare's plays. These short analytical pauses,

placed between every scene, formed a key element of the show and allowed Packer to explain why she chose to include each scene.

The casual manner of Packer and Gore's interactions contributed greatly to the atmosphere of the analytical portions of the performance. Speaking directly to the audience, Packer sounded completely at ease, explaining the most critical aspects of each scene like an English teacher picking apart a passage. Gore occasionally chimed in as well, commenting on aspects that Packer may have overlooked. This off-the-cuff discussion between these two veteran actors and old friends was immensely enjoyable.

The lighting in the show was superb, alternating seamlessly from the dark, violent battlefield scenes to bright palace environments in plays like *Henry VI*. Working with a couple of costumes and a very simple set consisting of a merely a chair and a few chests, the actors and their movements were the focal point of the show. The lighting design took this into account, expertly highlighting the actors and their positions on the stage.

Some scenes included audio clips that I found to be more hit-and-miss in their effectiveness. For instance, although the sound of seagull cries added a realistic ambience to a beach setting, the scene from *Antony and Cleopatra* seemed to rely excessively on short sound bites of Packer's voice reading lines from the play. The recording that played through speakers as the actors sat in stony silence sounded clipped and robotic. Although an interesting use of media, I felt it would have been more impactful if the actors had simply spoken the lines.

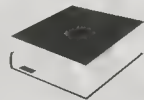
The highlight of the show was definitely Packer's performance, which featured a strong, fluid delivery of lines and passionate monologues. Her familiarity with Shakespeare was apparent through her mastery of tone and pace. This powerful, emotional performance across a variety of roles was reminiscent for me of Dame Judi Dench's Lady Macbeth from the 1978 version of *Macbeth* with Ian McKellen. After seeing *Women of Will*, I would certainly be eager to see a full Shakespeare production with Packer as its lead.



MATTHEW MURPHY

Tina Packer performed a series of scenes from Shakespeare's plays alongside Nigel Gore as part of the First Folio celebrations.

## BOOKING IT



By Gabrielle Owens  
Senior Columnist

"A friendly desert community where the sun is hot, the moon is beautiful and mysterious lights pass overhead while we all pretend to sleep. Welcome to Night Vale."

These are the words that launched the now internationally popular podcast *Welcome to Night Vale* back in 2012. They also remain perhaps the most concise way to communicate the style and premise of the podcast, which takes the form of a radio show for the fictional town of Night Vale. The podcast is absurd, sometimes unsettling and often beautiful.

Just a few months ago, the creators of the podcast released a novel that hit the Amazon bestseller list instantly. Although set in the same town as the podcast and featuring many of the same characters, the novel is an original, self-contained story, and so it is not necessary to be familiar with the podcast in order to understand the novel. Readers follow the narration of Diane Crayton, a single mother trying to learn how to connect with her shape-shifting son Josh, and Jackie Fiero, a pawn shop owner who is given a piece of paper she subsequently cannot get rid of

that reads simply, "KING CITY." Brought together by their search for a mysterious man in a tan jacket, Diane and Jackie find themselves allies as they try to hold onto their lives in a world that is making even less sense than usual.

*Night Vale*, both the podcast and the novel, has a peculiar style that may not bode well for everyone. Reminiscent of magical realism, it inverts and confuses reality without acknowledging what is happening is strange. For instance, there is no explanation for why Josh can shape-shift; he simply can, and no one questions the fact that Diane's son may be a horsefly one day and a sentient patch of haze the next. There are long forays into description, painting the picture of the town and its inhabitants in an extraordinarily beautiful manner. The town itself, in all its weirdness, is just as important as any of the main characters.

For all of the bizarre changes in reality that make up *Welcome to Night Vale*, its greatest strength lies in its ability to take the strange and use it to comment on real, relatable situations. In particular, the relationship between Diane and Josh is remarkably conveyed, with the strain of single parenthood and the struggles of communication between the mother and

the teenage boy evident in every line. Of course, in the real world, teenage boys are not literal shape-shifters, but there is fickleness and uncertainty, a slipperiness of identity in puberty that we have all experienced. Diane's every action is more than understandable as a mother who no longer knows how to relate to her son, a problem perhaps augmented by the fact that he does not always have a human form.

One reason behind the podcast's popularity is its positive representation of various minority groups, especially the LGBTQ community. This is present in the novel as well. Both Diane, a working single mother, and Jackie, a young and independent business owner, stand out as people who do not often get to be protagonists. Fink and Cranor's exceptional thoughtfulness when it comes to these portrayals is a positive mark for the novel for several reasons. Besides obvious benefits for people who belong to those minorities, working outside stereotypical characters allows for fresh and more surprising stories. The story in the novel is unpredictable not only because the rules of reality are different,

but also because this is not a story that has been told a hundred times before. The characters are strongly individual, refusing to blend in with other books or movies. Their personalities are distinct and developed, and every decision they make is logical from what we know about them.

It is difficult to get an accurate impression of *Welcome to Night Vale* without actually reading it yourself. Descriptions get lost in trying to convey the strangeness

without truly communicating the allure of the enchanting language and unexpectedly touching story. Even once you start reading, you might be too confused trying to understand what is happening to decide whether you actually like the book or not

— and between the fantastical element and its peculiar style, there are certainly people who will not like the book. For others, it will be a favorite for years to come. *Welcome to Night Vale* will take you on a journey into a desert town, surprise you, move you and leave you dazzled by the mysterious lights overhead.

Find this book in the Davis Family Library through go/bookingit.

**Reminiscent of magical realism, it inverts and confuses reality without acknowledging that what is happening is strange.**

### WELCOME TO NIGHT VALE

## DON'T MISS THIS

### The Opulence of Integrity

Christal Brown's dance work is inspired by Muhammad Ali's life as a social activist, public martyr and human being. The performance explores the inner struggle for identity for men of color in the United States, with an intimate look at the trappings that continually prohibit freedom.

2/26-2/27, 7 P.M., TOWN HALL THEATER

### Leviathan

A dispute over land in a remote Russian township casts cataclysmic ripples through a family and a community. This film by Andrey Zvyagintsev is a thinly veiled political parable drenched in bitter irony that takes aim at the controversial regime of Vladimir Putin. In Russian with English subtitles. Free.

2/27, 3 & 8 P.M., DANA AUDITORIUM

### Selected Scenes from Will

In Jon Glascoe's new play, Shakespeare stands chained in the Tower of London, questioned by Robert Cecil and eventually the Queen herself, to determine his role in the treason. In the course of these examinations, Will's whole life is revealed, from his humble beginnings in Stratford, to the glory of Hamlet. Free.

2/28, 5 P.M., MCA DANCE THEATER



# PERFORMING ARTS SPOTLIGHT

By Connor Forrest  
Senior Columnist

"To be born branded by history, burdened by responsibility and inspired toward greatness requires a committed heart and an opulence of integrity."  
—Christal Brown

As part Middlebury's Black History Month celebration, our very own Assistant Professor of Dance Christal Brown will be producing her original dance-theatre work, *The Opulence of Integrity*, Feb. 26 and 27 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall Theater. The performance promises to act as a thought-provoking catalyst for dialogue in our current campus climate.

The piece uses the career of Muhammad Ali, and his life as a social activist, public martyr and human being, to explore the struggle for identity faced by many men of color in the United States, with a special focus on the social, economic and spiritual trappings that continually prohibit freedom.

According to Brown, the performance incorporates elements of boxing, hip hop, martial arts and modern dance to "deploy an eclectic movement vernacular" that illustrates "the turmoil of a life infused by divinity, yet misinterpreted by humanity."

Brown has designed the piece as four movements that each reflect a different period in Ali's life. The first section is meant to depict, as she put it, "the cultural shift between that of Malcolm X to Muhammad Ali, how Ali came under Malcolm's tutelage and became this oth-



ROBERT MAYER

Christal Brown, Assistant Professor of Dance, is producing a piece on the transformation of Muhammad Ali into a cultural icon.

er kind of cultural icon in his own right."

The second is "more along the lines of legendary Ali, at the time where Ali was treated more like a superhero than that of a real person." Movement three, "No Vietnamese Ever Called Me N\*gger," invokes Ali's refusal to participate in the Vietnam War. The final section references "the transcendent nature of who

Ali has become in the lives of people as a cultural icon, as a historical figure, as a boxer, as a man and as the legend that he lives as today."

Throughout the performance, movement and text connect with both traditional and nontraditional dance audiences. In addition to the live artists, a projection plays in the background, creating another level of engagement. And of course, the show's inspiration is a living legend who will draw viewers into seeing the parallels of war, resistance and perseverance through a historical lens.

Christal Brown is a choreographer, educator, performer, writer and activist. She received her BFA in dance and minor in business from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. In addition to teaching at the College, Brown is the founder and executive director of INSPIRIT, a performance ensemble and educational conglomerate dedicated to

bringing female choreographers together to collaborate and show new work. *The Opulence of Integrity* is Brown's first foray into working with an all-male ensemble.

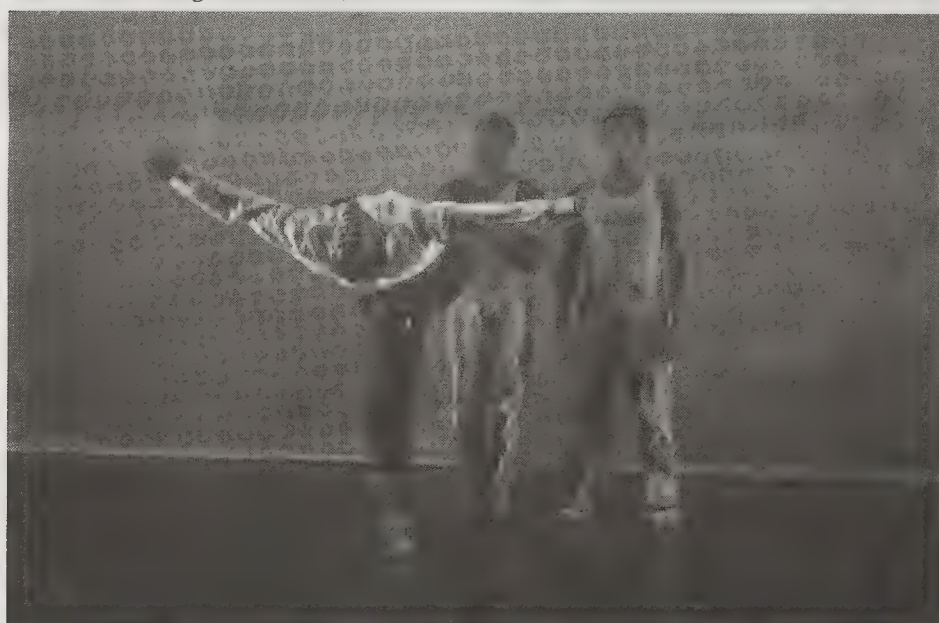
She dedicates the work "to her father, brother, and uncle — who fought but did not win — and to her own son, whose battle has not yet begun."

"I think one thing that I really want people to take away after seeing the piece is for them to find their own opulence in life, to find out what they can do to the fullest, to think about how integral that is to who they are and never let go of that," Brown stated. "I think that's one thing we've gleaned from the legacy of Ali, that he held onto what his truth was, no matter what."

**"I think one thing that I really want people to take away after seeing the piece is for them to find their own opulence in life, to find out what they can do to the fullest, to think about how integral that is to who they are and never let go of that."**

CHRISTAL BROWN  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF DANCE

Two public performances of *The Opulence of Integrity* will be presented on Feb. 26 and 27 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall Theater. Tickets are \$15 for students. Visit go/boxoffice or stop by McCullough or the MCA to book yours now.



ROBERT MAYER

The show is divided into four parts, each of which represents a period of Ali's life.

## PLAYWRIGHTS ON THEIR PLAYS

By Danny Dignan and  
Nick Apodiasos  
Contributing Columnists

Good theatre, as is often said, is like a "slice of life." A play captures compelling and often uncomfortable elements of the human existence — and as more and more traditionally (and still) marginalized voices burst into the national conversation and more formerly taboo subjects become open to discussion, theatre provides a powerful avenue for these voices to share their stories.

Unfortunately, contemporary theatre is often a luxury item for its patrons, as opposed to an easily accessible artistic medium. According to a report by *The Broadway League*, the average age of Broadway theatregoers from June 2013 through to June 2014 was 44. Moreover, Caucasians purchased almost eighty percent of all tickets — or more specifically, affluent Caucasians. An average Broadway audience has a reported annual household income of \$201,500. Of theatregoers over the age of 25, 78 percent have completed college and 39 percent have earned a graduate degree.

The demographics of theatregoers are a result of the continuous increase of ticket prices, as well as the low incomes experienced by the younger generation.

In addition, there is pressure on producers to match the special effects that have become dominant in film in the past couple of decades, leading to greater expenditures on state-of-the-art equipment to satisfy customers. Finally, regional theaters find that producing the latest Broadway hit or a famous American work is more profitable than taking a chance on a new, discourse-heavy play, something that would perhaps attract a new and more diverse audience. Hence, shows nowadays exist at the exclusion of the majority of the population.

Perhaps the most problematic aspect of contemporary theatre, however, is that

plays are not adequately or accurately representing current U.S. demographics, both racially and economically speaking.

Keith Hamilton Cobb's new play, *American Moor*, tells the tale of a large, middle-aged black man auditioning for the role of Othello, as a young and white artistic character tries to impose his sense of race on the character. The story is, as Cobb tells it, a representation of the black experience in the theatre business. Relevant statistics back up Cobb's story. As of the 2012-13 season, actors of color make up only 25 percent of the staff in popular off-Broadway theatre companies in NYC.

And, with respect to roles without racial specificities, no theatre company studied has an inclusive (non-traditional) casting rate of over 20 percent. Regarding roles pursued and performed by actors of color, only 10 percent of roles received by actors

of color are not racially specific.

This has important implications, as the theatre certainly provides a stimulus for public discourse concerning social and political issues. Plays demonstrate the opinions and lifestyles that members of the audience may not necessarily be privy to, and provide a lens through which one can learn about human psychology and culture. They can also influence the audiences' values and behavior, prompting them to analyze their environment and their interactions with it.

The cost of seeing a play can limit the impact it can have on dialogue surrounding key matters, as well as deprive people of the opportunity to experience something outside their realm of existence. The impact on the younger generation is one of particular concern, as a study by *Theatre Bay Area* found that younger respondents generally report higher levels of discussion following the conclusion of the play, as well as greater personal reflection. As a result, those who could benefit the most from contemporary theatre productions are those who are least likely to be able to attend such an event.

**Perhaps the most problematic aspect of contemporary theatre, however, is that plays are not adequately or accurately representing current U.S. demographics, both racially and economically speaking.**



# TRACK RECORDS FALL AT NEW ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

"There are a lot of strong DII track teams in New England," he pointed out, "and for us to be 3rd and 6th is terrific. It was nice to see some of our women break school records and set facility records. We had 26 men qualify, which is the most ever, so in share numbers, they proved to be a much formidable force than in recent years."

In Cambridge, the men's squad fin-

ished tied for sixth, which they managed to accomplish without a single first-place finish.

James Mulliken '18 continued rewriting the school record books on the men's side. Mulliken continued his strong season by besting the 600-meter dash record, clocking a time of 1:22.36, good for fifth overall. Kevin Serrao '18 finished fourth in the 1,000-meter race, Sebastian Matt '16 crossed the line eighth in the 5,000-meter run, and Alex Nichols

'17 and Jimmy Martinez '19 finished fourth and fifth in the 400-meter dash, respectively.

For the team events, the distance medley relay squad of Tyler Farrell '18, Sam Cartwright '16, Lucas Carpinello '16 and Jonathan Perlman '19 finished second, while the 4x400 relay team of Brandon Cushman '16, Mulliken, Martinez and Nichols finished third. Finally, John Natalone '19 placed third in the pole vault, while Deklan Robinson '16 wound

up fifth in the high jump.

After the weekend, Beatty harped on his team's intangibles.

"They're a great bunch of people, not just good athletes," Beatty said. "I love to see the relationships develop and grow strong."

Next weekend, both teams will head to the Open New England Championships at Boston University to compete against a field comprising both DI and DIII athletes.

## Women's Basketball Ends Season with Tough Loss

By Colby Morris  
Contributing Writer

The women's basketball team made their final road trip of the season on Saturday, Feb. 20. The Panthers travelled to Medford, Mass. to take on top seeded Tufts in the NESCAC Quarterfinal playoff round. As the top seed in the NESCAC tournament, the Jumbos entered with a dominant 21-2 record, highlighted by an undefeated 10-0 NESCAC campaign. The score was 31-19 coming out of the halftime break, and a dominant 26-6 third quarter by Tufts ultimately did the Panthers in.

The Panthers were paced by Sarah

Kaufman '18 with 10 points and Eileen Daley '18 with eight points and 11 rebounds, both of whom finished their sophomore campaigns strongly.

With this loss, the Panthers fell to 12-13 on the season, including a 3-7 in-conference mark. This was the first year since 2007-2008 that Middlebury made consecutive appearances in the NESCAC playoff tournament.

The future looks bright for the Panthers. The team's lone junior, Elizabeth Knox '17, is the most seasoned player currently on the roster, but she was lost for the season to an injury. That left the team to rely on underclassmen for the duration of the year.

First-year Catherine Harrison '19 had an outstanding opening year as she averaged a double-double with 11.3 points and 11 rebounds per game, garnering two NESCAC player of the week accolades and also surely in the running for All-NESCAC honors. Kaufman led the Panthers with 14.7 points-per-game, while adding 3.5 rebounds and 2.3 assists per game. Daley started all 25 games for the Panthers, averaging 34 minutes-per-game. Colleen Caveney '19 also came on strongly at the end of the season and averaged 7.6 points and 3.9 rebounds per game.

Middlebury will have the same core group of players for the next two to three

years, allowing them lots of time to work as a unit and develop. Some of their highlights on the year included a 76-59 win over Wesleyan and a close five-point win on the road against Bates that clinched the team's spot in the conference tournament. Looking to the future, Middlebury will have a long but hopeful off-season as they work to qualify for NESCACs for the third year in a row.

"Since we are such a young team we are all really excited for next year because no one is graduating," Harrison said. "We are returning with everyone extremely invested and everyone already knowing their position and role on the team."

## Men's Swimming and Diving Finishes Seventh at NESCACs

By Emily Bustard  
Sports Editor

The Middlebury men's Swimming and Diving team competed in the 2016 NESCAC Championship meet last weekend, Feb. 19-21, at Williams' Samuelson-Muir pool, finishing seventh as a team for the third consecutive year. The hosts racked up 1789.5 points to claim their fifteenth title to date against the ten other NESCAC teams, followed by Tufts (1410.5), Connecticut College (1407), Amherst (1315) and Bates (956) to round out the top five.

"Coming into [the] weekend, we knew we would be most competitive with Bowdoin and Bates [based on] the last few years," co-Captain Andrew Fleisher '16 explained.

"Because every team trains differently at various points in the season ... we didn't really know what to expect from either of them," he continued.

The Panthers finished much closer to Bowdoin (834.5) and the sixth-place position than they did last year, and the team recorded three individual podium titles in the process.

Paul Lagasse '16, Fleisher's co-Captain, emphasized that "almost every member of the ... team swam to their fullest potential

[during the meet], Middlebury swam beyond every expectation this weekend, and just saying that we came in seventh place doesn't capture that in the slightest."

The 200 free relay team of Bryan Cheuk '16, Lagasse, Jack McLaughlin '18 and Stephan Koenigsberger '16 came in fifth with a time of 1:24.35, only 0.63 seconds behind Tufts in the first final on Friday, Feb. 19.

Other highlights of the day included Koenigsberger's seventh-place time of 26.12 in the 50 breast — a mere milliseconds behind his sixth and fifth-place competitors — and Mike McGean '17's consistent performance in both the prelims and the finals of the 500 free that earned him sixth in the event (4:39.18 in the final and 4:37.56 in the prelim).

McLaughlin nearly made the top ten in the 50 free; his 21.50 time in the prelims and 21.51 in the final clinched the 11th place spot and the quartet of Brendan Leech '19, Koenigsberger, Alex Smith '18 and Lagasse '16 placed eighth in the 400 medley relay (3:29.23).

Will Greene '19 took fifth on the one-meter diving platform with a score of 411.10 to close out the day, helping to place Middlebury in sixth place by the end of day one.

McGean's previous times this season in

the 1,000 free placed him just 1.39 seconds behind Tufts swimmer Brandon Jinn for the event title on Saturday, Feb. 20. When the evening's competition rolled around, McGean bested his own school record by 0.51 seconds to win the event by a margin of 4.39 seconds (9:32.36).

Building on his teammate's success, Koenigsberger made the podium with his third place finish in the 100 breast (56.08). Koenigsberger's times in both the prelims and the finals of the 100 breast qualified as NCAA 'B' Cut times.

Middlebury's swims in the 200 medley relay (Smith, Koenigsberger, Cheuk and Lagasse, 1:34.77) and 800 free relay (Smith, McGean, Leech and Connor McCormick '18, 7:09.49) proved good for eighth and ninth place, respectively.

Though the Panthers trailed just six points behind Bowdoin at the start of day three, they weren't able to re-claim the sixth position. Middlebury's seventh place time of 3:07.23 in the last event of the meet — the 400 free relay — by Lagasse, McLaughlin, Smith and Koenigsberger cemented the Panthers' standing in the meet.

On that same night, McGean recorded the NCAA 'B' cut time of 16:02.45 in his 1,650

free victory — his second gold-medal swim in the meet. He touched the wall 3.72 seconds before the second-place finisher from Connecticut College in this third-straight top-four finish of his NESCAC career.

Koenigsberger also swam to fifth place in the 200 breast, stopping the clock in 2:06.24, and on the deep end of the pool, Green placed fifth in the 3-meter diving competition with a score of 416.20 in the finals.

"This weekend and this season was a huge success," Fleisher reflected. "We scored about 160 points more than last year as a team, which shows great improvement. I ... think we showed our depth a lot more this season with over 20 of 24 guys scoring. Getting points from nearly everyone demonstrates the strong foundation of the program and that we are moving in the right direction."

Lagasse echoed that "while we may have come in 7th last year as well, we were so much more successful as an entire program this year, and I couldn't be happier with that."

If McGean's and Koenigsberger's NCAA 'B' cut times qualify them for nationals, the two swimmers will have a few weeks to train before travelling to Greensboro, North Carolina on March 16-20 for the NCAA Division III Championships.

## Skiing Builds Momentum for Winter Carnival

By Nicole Roos  
Senior Writer

Wins by Nordic skier Annie Pokorny '16 and Alpine skier Colin Hayes '17 in the second day of racing led the Middlebury ski teams to a combined fourth place finish in the Williams Carnival on February 19-20. The University of Vermont won the competition with 992 points, followed by Dartmouth (919), UNH (720) and the Panthers with 638 points. Alpine races were contested at Jiminy Peak in Hancock, Mass., while the Nordic races were held at the Ski Jump Venue at Lake Placid, NY.

The Panthers got off to a great start in the first day of racing, when alpine racer Rob Cone '17 took home a second place finish in the giant slalom, only one-tenth of a second behind the winning time. Sophomore Riley Plant '18 also helped pace the Panthers, finishing 13th, while Hayes turned in his ninth top-20 result for an 18th place finish. First-year racer Caroline Bartlett '19 continued to lead the Panther women as she has done for most of the season, earning an 11th place finish. Elle Gilbert '16 was the only other member of the women's team to finish, placing 21st.

Despite the absence of Kelsey Phinney '16, one of the team's top performers who will miss the next two carnivals to represent the United States at the U-23 World Championships in Romania, the women's Nordic team refused to slow down. Pokorny started off her two-podium weekend effort with a third place in Friday's 10K freestyle race. Alia Johnson '16 turned in her best effort of the season, finishing the race in 14th place, and Kaitlin Fink '16 rounded out the scorers for the Panthers, placing 17th overall. On the men's side, Lewis Nottontson '19 earned his best finish of the year, pacing the squad in 13th-place. Jacob Volz '18 tied his season-best 27th-place finish and Evan Weinman '18 rounded out the scorers in 33rd place.

Saturday's events were highlighted by Hayes's first career carnival win in the slalom. Sitting in fourth place after the first run, he turned in a blazing second run to take the overall victory.

"It was awesome to have such a big day personally and to see all my hard work paying off," Hayes said of his win. "But, it was even better with Rob's second place in the GS and Annie's win in the 5K. It was just an unbelievable weekend for the team as a whole."

Ghassan Gedeon Achi '16 earned a top-10 finish in seventh place, while Christopher McKenna '17 was the third Panther to finish in 25th place. Pacing the alpine women was Bartlett, who placed 12th overall. Gilbert followed in 23rd place and Katy Greene '17 was 35th.

On the Nordic side, Pokorny's win in Saturday's 5K classic race was her first victory of the season, where she beat out the second place finisher by a massive nine-second margin. Johnson turned in another personal best, finishing in 18th place, while Cate Brams '18 finished close behind in 22nd. For the Nordic men, Nottontson paced the Panthers with an 18th place finish, while Volz and Weinman finished in 26th and 29th, respectively.

Heading into the final carnival of the season, both the Alpine and Nordic teams are looking to capitalize on their home hill advantage.

"We have a number of seniors wrapping up their Carnival careers and I know they want to go out with a memorable weekend," Nordic Coach Andrew Johnson said. "On the men's side I'd like to see us have a full, healthy team racing. If we can get all six guys back to racing this weekend then we stand a good

chance of having our best men's showing in a few years, and if all of the women can have a strong, consistent weekend, then we have the potential to be one of the top teams."

The Panthers return to action this coming weekend, playing host to the EISA Championships, with Alpine events taking place at the Middlebury College Snow Bowl and Nordic races being held at Rikert Nordic Center.

### BY THE NUMB3RS

**7** Number of ties for the men's hockey team this season, a program record.

Points scored by men's basketball player Matt St. Amour '17 in the team's NESCAC quarterfinal win **23**

**11** Number of times the women's hockey team has secured the top-seed in the NESCAC Tournament

Goals scored by women's water polo captain Hannah Grotzinger '16 in the team's opening weekend **12**

**2** Freestyle events (1,650 and 1,000) won by swimmer Mike McGean '17 at last weekend's NESCAC Championship meet



# Men's Basketball Bests NESCAC Champs

By Joe MacDonald  
Senior Writer

The fourth-seeded Middlebury Panthers defended their home court with an 86-74 victory over the visiting Wesleyan Cardinals in the NESCAC Quarterfinals on Saturday, Feb. 20. The Panthers were supported by one of the most energized crowds in recent memory as Matt St. Amour '17 and Adisa Majors '18 carried the offensive load with a combined 41 points.

Middlebury kept the momentum of play in their favor throughout the contest. Facing the Cardinals, who had the third-best field goal percentage defense in all of Division-III coming into the game, Middlebury tallied an incredible 45 points in the first half. St. Amour was particularly effective in the game's opening minutes. The Vermont native opened the scoring with a three-pointer assisted by Connor Huff '16, and outscored the entire Wesleyan team for the first quarter of the game. St. Amour took seven minutes to record his first 11 points, while the Cardinals required over nine minutes to do the same.

Led by backup junior guard Harry Rafferty, who would finish with a team-high 19 points on the afternoon, Wesleyan began to close the gap late in the first half, but each run by the Cardinals was rebutted by a big shot from one of the Panthers. Wesleyan shrunk the lead to seven with 8:11 to play in the first half, but the crowd soon erupted after a Liam Naughton '17 three-pointer cut the deficit back to double digits. Moments later it was Huff, who usually does his offensive work from 15 feet in, drilling a three-pointer to give the Panthers a 12 point lead. The first half

ended with Middlebury up by a score of 45-32.

The pace slowed to start the second half. The score stood at 51-41 with 16:09 left to play and Wesleyan seemed to be chipping away at the Panther lead when Zach Baines '19 ignited the Panther fans with a dunk off of a pass from Jake Brown '17.

"The crowd was amazing," Brown said. "As an athlete you dream of playing in an environment like that."

Later in the second half, Wesleyan was more successful in closing the scoring gap. Over a stretch of three and a half minutes, players from the Wesleyan bench added 12 points, shrinking the lead to as little as

five with 5:08 to play. From that point on, the Middlebury defense made everything tough for Wesleyan. Offensively, Majors was the key for Middlebury with 12 points of his own in the game's final 7:44.

JAKE BROWN '17 The game looked to be over after Majors' layup with 2:38 re-

maining gave the Panthers a 74-65 lead. Shortly after, Wesleyan point guard BJ Davis, a NESCAC First Team candidate, converted on a three-point opportunity. Moments later, senior guard Jack Mackey drilled a 35-foot three-pointer to put Middlebury ahead by a score of 77-71. History repeated itself on the next possession when Davis netted a similarly long-distance three-point shot, making it 79-74. With the Cardinals in need of a bucket on their next possession, Majors stepped up once again, getting a hand on two consecutive Wesleyan attempts, eventually corraling the rebound and making two free throws to set the score at 81-74 with under a minute left. Down the stretch it was only a matter of making free throws and contesting some wild shot at-

tempts from the Cardinals. Middlebury earned the victory as time expired, besting Wesleyan by a final score of 86-74.

"The biggest thing is that we trusted each other, we knew if we left our man to help someone else would rotate and force tough looks," Brown said.

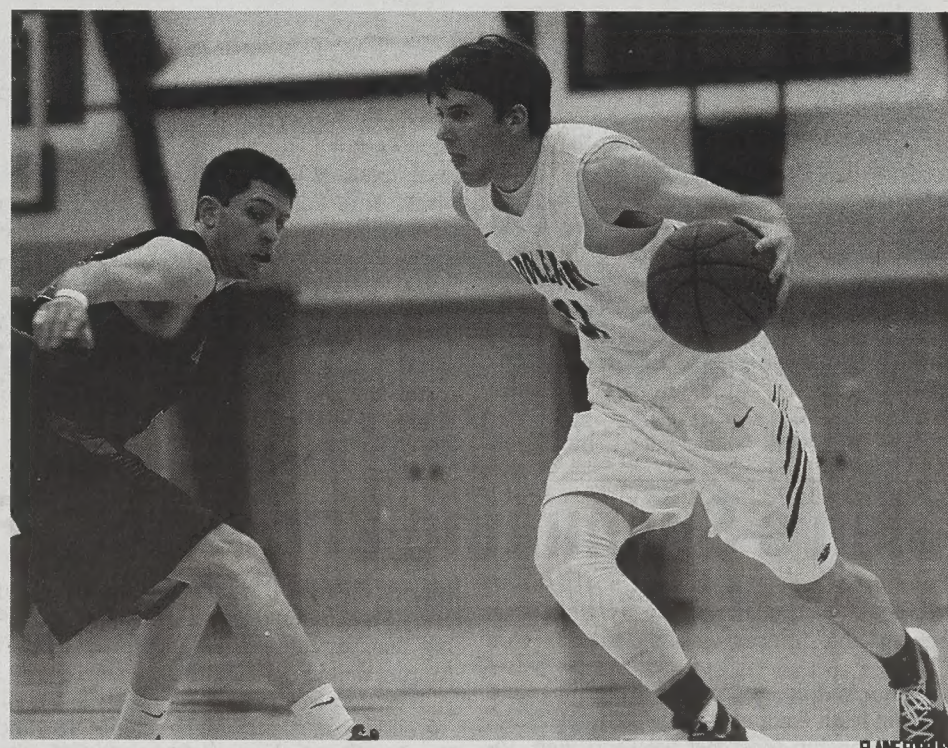
St. Amour led all scorers with 23 points in addition to six boards and three assists. Majors tallied 18 points on 7-10 shooting and had eight rebounds. Baines might have provided the most excitement all day with four blocks to go along with seven points and four boards. Brown was effective throughout the game with his slick ball handling and court vision, finishing the day with 11 points, seven as-

sists and four steals on the defensive end.

The Panthers are set to travel to Hartford, Conn., the site of the NESCAC semifinals and finals. They are set to face top-seeded Trinity, and with a win will advance to the finals against either second-ranked Amherst or third-ranked Tufts.

"I think we need to have better toughness [this Saturday against Trinity] than we showed last time," Brown said. "Our help defense needs to be there like it was last Saturday. If we bring both of those things, I think we'll be in great shape."

Two wins would earn the program a third NESCAC title and the opportunity to return to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since the 2012-13 season.



Junior guard Matt St. Amour '17 went off for 23 points against Wesleyan last Saturday Feb. 20 in the NESCAC Quarterfinal. St. Amour went 8-18 (44 percent) from the field, including 4-10 (40 percent) from three-point range. He also grabbed six rebounds and added three assists in the Panthers 86-74 victory.

## Men's Hockey Fights to No. 5 NESCAC Seed

By Andrew Rigas  
Sports Editor

The Middlebury men's hockey team did not lose this weekend at Kenyon Arena, tying Hamilton 1-1 and defeating Amherst 3-1 on Feb. 20-21. Despite the tie result, the team finished one point below Hamilton and fifth in the NESCAC standings, one spot away from hosting a NESCAC playoff game. The Panthers will travel to Clinton, N.Y. to play fourth-seeded Hamilton in the NESCAC quarterfinals on Saturday, Feb. 27.

Entering the game against fourth-ranked Hamilton on Saturday, Feb. 20, Middlebury needed to defeat the Continentals to have a chance to secure the fourth seed and a home playoff game. Hamilton opened the scoring fewer than five minutes into the first period when Conor Lamberti shot from the left point and Brandon Willett deflected the puck past Middlebury netminder Liam Moorfield-Yee '16.

Two minutes later, Ron Fishman '16 tied the game on a wrist shot from the right side. Travis Stephens '18 passed to Fishman who wristed the puck through traffic and into the back of the net to tie the game at one.

Neither team scored in the second period, but Hamilton generated more shots by a margin of 14-4 and had one shot denied by the post when Rory Gagnon hit iron three quarters of the way through the period.

Moorfield-Yee made several game-saving stops in the third period as both teams fought for the much-needed win and things began to get chippy — the teams combined for 12 penalties in the contest.

"Right now, every game is a playoff game and we are fighting for a home playoff position," Captain Evan Neugold '16 said.

Over four minutes had elapsed in the final period as action picked up. Lamberti set Kenny Matheson free on a long pass down the middle of the ice. Matheson found himself alone with only Moorfield-Yee to beat, but Moorfield-Yee denied Matheson's shot and the rebound attempt. The Panthers counter-attacked and Zach Haggerty '16 ripped a shot from the open left side, but it went just wide. In the last minute of regulation, Hamilton had a two-on-one opportunity, but Scott Vasquez could not convert and the two teams headed to overtime.

Midway through the overtime period, Mark McLellan '18 beat a Continental defender to a puck in the neutral zone and skated in all alone. He went right and shot, but Hamilton netminder Evan Buitenhuis made a glove save to continue the game. In the dying seconds, Moorfield-Yee gloved Robbie Murden's, the NESCAC overall scoring leader, shot from the left to force one more face-off with one second remaining. The Hamilton player taking the faceoff sent the puck in the direction of Moorfield-Yee, who made a kick save, his 38th of the day, to end the game in a 1-1 tie. The tie was Middlebury's seventh of the season, a team record, and their second with Hamilton, who they tied 3-3 in the season's first matchup.

The tie with Hamilton meant Middlebury could not move into fourth in the NESCAC, but the game against Amherst the next day still had meaning for the Panthers. With a win, they would move past the Lord Jeffs into fifth in the conference, and it was senior day for the team.

"[This weekend] is even more special considering it's senior night for nine of us," Neugold said.

This time, the Panthers scored first when Max Greenwald '16 passed the puck

cross-ice to Haggerty, who redirected it for a goal, his team-leading eighth of the season. They added to the lead early in the second period with two goals in one minute. At the 3:41 mark, Fishman scored his second goal in as many games from a difficult angle off assists from Paul Falvey '16 and Stephens. Exactly one minute later, Spencer Cage '19 set up Jake Charles '16 for his sixth goal of the season.

Down by a score of 3-0, Amherst went on the power play twice in the second period and converted on their second man-advantage with a shot from the point.

"Three out of the last four games we have given up two leads, so our focus is on becoming a team that can close when we have the lead," Neugold said before this weekend.

Middlebury accomplished that on Saturday and secured a 3-1 win to finish fifth in the NESCAC, two places higher than last year.

"Playing a full 60 minutes is something that we've been emphasizing all year long, and it was great to see it happen on Sunday against Amherst," said Fishman, one of five seniors to contribute to the scoring effort.

Moorfield-Yee saved 21 shots in the contest and earned his second win of the season.

"Having three seniors score all three goals and having Liam in net for the win is pretty special given that it was an emotional day," Fishman said.

Middlebury and Hamilton will meet for a third time on Saturday, Feb. 27 in Hamilton and the winner will move into the NESCAC semifinals the following weekend.

"To beat Hamilton on Saturday," Fishman said, "it's going to take a full 60-minute effort from everyone."

## THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT EIGHT

RANKING	TEAM	Alex's Assertions
1	TRACK & FIELD	<i>I'm taking over G8 this week to say that it was a great day to be a Panther.</i>
2	MEN'S BASKETBALL	<i>Look's like these boys have their mojo back. An impressive win that could propel them forward.</i>
3	WOMEN'S HOCKEY	<i>Whatever these girls are having, I'll have it too.</i>
4	SKIING	<i>I hope that there's snow next weekend for Winter Carnival...</i>
5	MEN'S HOCKEY	<i>Not the home playoff game that they wanted but they should be fine at Hamilton.</i>
6	MEN'S SWIMMING	<i>These boys equaled their NESCAC finish from last year.</i>
7	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	<i>It was a learning year for the Lady Panthers. They'll come back stronger.</i>
8	WATER POLO	<i>Cus I like Emily.</i>



# Water Polo Successful on Opening Weekend

By Will Case  
Sports Editor

The Middlebury women's club Water Polo team successfully opened their season at the Natatorium last weekend, Feb. 20-21, where they hosted the first tournament of the season for the Collegiate Water Polo Association (CWPA)'s Women's New England Club Division. The Panthers, who ranked 11th out of the 16 teams competing for the 2015 National Collegiate Club Championship, emerged from the weekend in a tie for first place with their 3-1 record.

Middlebury went 2-0 with consecutive wins over Boston College and Dartmouth on day one of the tournament, followed by their convincing 11-point victory over Northeastern and hard-fought loss to Boston University on Sunday, Feb. 21.

After just four days of official team practices, the Panthers opened the season with a one-point victory over Boston College in a nail-biter on Saturday, Feb. 20. Middlebury got on the board in a hurry against the Eagles, as first-year Kate Claman '19 scored the first two goals of her career at Middlebury in the first two minutes. Claman went on to sink three of the Panthers' six goals in the first half, en route to a team-high of four goals.

Hannah Grotzinger '16, one of the four senior team captains, explained why Claman's performance was integral to the Panthers' success.

"I play the set position — in front of the center of the goal on offense — and Boston College decided to double or triple-team me, so the shots on goal had to come from players at other positions," Grotzinger said.

Following Claman's initial 2-0 lead, Grotzinger traded goals with Boston College (BC), who brought the score to 5-3 by the end of the first quarter.

Co-Captain Alex Spencer-Wong '16 then broke the Eagles momentum with a counterattack goal to open the second quarter, and Grotzinger tied the game at five goals apiece three minutes later. BC proceeded with a goal of their own before Claman shot from the outside to knot up the game at six apiece.

It looked like the teams would head into the halftime break tied at 6, but Boston College managed to score its seventh goal in the waning seconds, taking a 7-6 lead into halftime.

Emily Bustard '17.5 led the charge for

the Panthers after her stint as goalie in the second quarter, and added two goals in quick succession to put Middlebury on top 8-7.

Boston College would score with 13 seconds remaining in the third, leaving the fans on the edge of their seats with the game tied at eight as they awaited the final quarter.

The Panthers looked to continue putting pressure on the Eagles.

"Our goalie [Anna Lueck '18.5] hasn't been able to play recently, so some of our starters were playing in goal for the entirety of the tournament," Grotzinger said.

"Because of [Lueck's absence], our strategy against Boston College (and all teams) was to put a lot of pressure on their offense and guard them tightly to make passing difficult [and minimize their shots on goal]."

The game was in the balance until the very end, as Boston College went up 10-9 with 2:29 remaining on the power-play. One minute later, Claman found the back of the net for the Middlebury equalizer. Then, just as the game seemed destined for overtime, a five-meter penalty shot was awarded to the Panthers with 10 seconds left; Grotzinger's five meter shot found the back of the net, allowing the Panthers to pull off an 11-10 victory.

The Panthers took on the Big Green of Dartmouth that same evening, coming through with a 9-6 victory.

"We were really excited before the game," Grotzinger said. "Dartmouth has been our biggest rival for many, many years so we had a very strong desire to win before the game even started. This mentality definitely helped us during the game."

It only took Grotzinger 20 seconds to get the Panthers on the board.

"In all the games we won this weekend, we scored the first goal of the game," Grotzinger said. "The first team to score a goal in a game gets a very positive surge of adrenaline, and a lot of the sport is based on mental strength, not only physical strength."

The Dartmouth game was all but over at the half, which began with a score of 6-1. "I think the most decisive point in the Dartmouth game came at the end of the second quarter after four different players on the Middlebury team had scored goals and we had prevented Dartmouth from scoring."

"We had great momentum coming out



Emily Bustard '17.5 rises out of the water to make a pass. She was the second highest scorer on the Middlebury Water Polo team over the weekend.

of the second quarter, and one of our goals for the season is to be able to keep that going, even against a high-pressure defense like the one we faced from Dartmouth in the second half," said Bustard, who scored her second goal of the game in the second half.

The Panthers held on in the second half for a 9-6 win. In addition to two-goal contributions from Bustard and Grotzinger, Co-Captain Christina Denbow '16 scored 3, while co-Captain Sam Horn '16 put away one goal.

The Panthers hit the pool early on Sunday, Feb. 21 at 9 a.m. to commence a 13-2 rout of Northeastern. Middlebury jumped out to a 7-0 lead, going into the half up 8-1 over the Huskies.

"[The] Northeastern game was great because our newer players got to see a lot of game-time [where they could] practice the skills we'd been working on in practice," said Grotzinger, who found the back of the net five times against the Huskies.

Other goals against Northeastern came from Bustard (4), Spencer-Wong (2), Julie Ehrlich '17.5 (1) and Amanda Geller '16 (1), while Denbow won three of the four sprints to start each quarter.

"Our team is naturally fast, so we were able to score on many counter-attacks against Northeastern — despite the fact that we'd only been training for four days before the tournament, compared to the

other teams who had been practicing since mid-January," Grotzinger said.

A few hours later, the Panthers took to the pool for the last time of the weekend against conference newcomer Boston University. The Panthers fell 7-4 but played the Terriers closely.

The Terriers jumped out to a 1-0 lead when they scored just under five minutes into the game. Grotzinger quickly answered with a backhand goal assisted by Horn.

Denbow began the Panthers' second-quarter scoring as she netted an assist from Bustard off of the counter-attack. But every time the Panthers scored the Terriers had an answer, and then another when they scored just a minute later. Nevertheless, Bustard rounded out the quarter by sailing in a lob shot from the set position.

The third quarter began with another Grotzinger backhand goal, but again Boston responded with a quick goal to break a 4-4 tie. The Terriers followed with another three goals in the final half of play.

Despite ending the weekend with a loss, the Panthers had a successful first weekend and are in good position in the conference standings.

"I'm proud of the way we played this weekend, especially with it being so early in the season," Bustard said. "I can't wait to see what we can do in our next home tournament in April," Grotzinger said.

## EDITORS' PICKS



ANDREW RIGAS (33-23, .589)



WILL CASE (7-5, .583)



REMO PLUNKETT (48-41, .539)



ALEX MORRIS (89-82, .529)



EMILY BUSTARD (58-63, .479)

**Skiing: Will Midd finish better than its third-place finish last year in the Middlebury Winter Carnival races on Feb. 26-27?**

NO

They've finished fourth in every race this year, and the three teams ahead of them will be here this weekend.

YES

They have the energy to get it done.

YES

The home slope advantage will be huge, and the weather looks prime!

NO

Dartmouth and UVM are just too dang good.

YES

I really know nothing about ski races, but hopefully they'll do well.

**Premier League pick'em: Who wins, Manchester United (11-8-7) v. Arsenal (15-6-5) on Sunday, Feb. 28.**

ARSENAL

They whopped Man U 3-0 last time and will do it again this weekend.

TIE

Man United is going through a rough stretch, but Arsenal will struggle to come of the emotional high of its UCL match with Barca.

MANCHESTER UNITED

Sing me the Manchester United theme song!

ARSENAL

They're the only team that's been consistent this season. Plus me and Wegner hi-fived once.

ARSENAL

Seems like a good bet.

**Men's B-ball: Will the Panthers knock off top-seeded Trinity in the NESCAC semifinals on Saturday, Feb. 27 in Hartford?**

YES

Midd looked awfully tough on Saturday, no bias here at all.

YES

Upset city! The Panthers continue building momentum toward a NESCAC crown.

NO

I think the top-seeded Bantams will be tough to beat.

NO

They just came off a loss from Trinity, but who knows. The odds may be in their favor.

NO

We've had a great season, but it'll be hard to beat Trinity on their home court.

**CBB pick'em: Who wins, no. 7 North Carolina @ no. 3 Virginia on Saturday, Feb. 27.**

NORTH CAROLINA

I still firmly believe the Tar Heels are the best team in the nation.

NORTH CAROLINA

While it is tough winning on the road, the Heels will hold on in a close finish.

VIRGINIA

I've heard UVA has some stellar home crowd energy.

VIRGINIA

My parents are Wahooos.

VIRGINIA

I mean, they're obviously ranked higher.





## PANTHERS PLAYING ON

The Middlebury men's basketball team knocked off defending conference champion Wesleyan last Saturday, Feb. 20 in the NESCAC quarterfinals before a raucous home crowd at Pepin Gymnasium. With the 86-74 victory, the Panthers hit the road to try and upset top-seeded Trinity this Saturday, Feb. 27 in the NESCAC semifinal round.

See page 18 for full coverage.

ELAINE FORBUSH

## Women's Hockey Unstoppable; Easily Puts Seven Past Williams

By Ethan Brady  
Features Editor

The women's hockey team finished the regular season with two shutout wins against Williams last weekend, skating to a 2-0 away win on Friday, Feb. 19, and a 7-0 victory on Saturday, Feb. 20 in Chip Kenyon '85 Arena. With the victories, the Panthers secured the top seed for the NESCAC women's hockey tournament for the sixth-straight and 11th time overall.

On Friday, the Panthers beat Williams (12-10-1, 8-7-0) 2-0 in Williamstown, Mass. Middlebury took an early lead 6:29 into the game on the power play via the sophomore squad: Jessica Young '18 scored her ninth goal of the season and was assisted by Elizabeth Wulf '18 and Maddie Winslow '18.

In the second period, the Panthers extended their lead to 2-0 at the 15:42 mark. Rachael St. Clair '19 passed the puck to Katherine Jackson '19, who skated in one-on-one against Eph goalie Julia Mini, faked to the right, then lifted a wrister to the short side above the shoulder of Mini for her fifth goal of the season.

The Ephs fought hard in the third period to make up lost ground. They held a 10-4 advantage in shots on goal that period, and pulled their goalie with a minute left in favor of an extra attacker. The Williams squad outpaced Middlebury in overall shots on goal (24-20) and had five power plays, but converted none of them into goals.

Middlebury goalie Julia Neuburger '18 picked up her fourth shutout of the season with 24 saves between the pipes.

The two teams faced off again

on Saturday, Feb. 20, in Kenyon Arena in a "Pink the Rink" game in support of finding a cure for breast cancer. The fans, decked out in pink, also celebrated the graduating seniors for Senior Night: Captain Julia Wardwell '16, Alternate Captain Katie Mandigo '16, Marisa Dreher '16, Micaela Thibault '16 and Anna Van Kula '16.

The Panthers scored four goals in the first period, and the first three came within a span of less than two minutes. At the 7:48 mark, Julia Wardwell '16 drove the puck into the back of the net from the left point for her first collegiate goal. Thirty seconds later, Rachael St. Clair '19 doubled the lead with a wrap-around goal. Twenty-one seconds later, Haley LaFontaine '18 sent the puck from inside the blue line through the legs of Williams goalie Mini. Eight minutes after, on the power play, LaFontaine passed the puck to Kelly Sherman '17, who directed a shot on goal from along the goal line that Mini touched but could not block. The Panthers dominated the first period with a 4-0 lead and a 13-3 edge in shots on goal, including not allowing a single shot in the first 10 minutes of the period.

Middlebury made it a 5-0 game 3:56 into the middle period, scoring again on the power play when Wardwell cut into the slot and kept the puck low into the back of the net for her second goal of the season on assist by Winslow. Williams had two shots on a power play later in the period, but Middlebury goalie Neuburger made a pair of stick saves to keep the Ephs scoreless.

Winslow picked up her team-leading 13th goal of the season at the 13:50 mark to bring the

score to 6-0. With 1:24 left in the third period, Shanna Hickman '19 tipped in an insurance goal — not that it was needed for the victory. Middlebury held a 29-17 edge in shots on goal for the game. The Panthers went 3-5 on the power play, while Williams was scoreless in its man-advantage.

"I think we have played well in the past few weeks," Head Coach Bill Mandigo said. "The players are working hard and many are making significant contributions. I am excited about this team and their prospects as we head into the playoffs."

The Panthers will be looking for their eighth conference title when quarterfinal action starts on Saturday, Feb. 27. If the Panthers win on Saturday, they will host both semifinals and the final on March 5 and 6 as the highest seed remaining. This year's NESCAC champion will earn an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

Middlebury (17-4-3, 13-0-3 NESCAC) has won 12 of its last 13 games since Jan. 15. The team looks to win their first NESCAC title since 2012, which would be the eight in program history. Last year, Middlebury advanced to the championship game before falling to Trinity in overtime, 3-2. The Panthers, ranked seventh nationally, will face No. 8 seed Colby (3-12-1) in the quarterfinal round. A Middlebury victory against Colby would bring the Panthers' unbeaten streak to 30 games and give them home ice for the semifinals and finals. The Panthers hope to avenge last year's fumble in the finals at the hands of third-seed Trinity.

## TRACK & FIELD RECORD PROGRAM BEST FINISHES

By Rob Erickson  
Senior Writer

Bringing the competitive fire they have brought to every meet this season, both the men's and women's indoor track and field teams made a splash on the big stage of the Division III New England Championship meets. Middlebury hosted the women's championships at Virtue Field House, while the men's team travelled to Cambridge, Mass where the men's championships were taking place at M.I.T.

The women's squad raced to an impressive third place finish out of 37 teams and toppled several school and facility records in the process.

Captain Jackie Kearney '16, who ran the first leg of the winning 4x400 meter relay for the Panthers, was quick to credit the team's chemistry after Saturday's strong finish.

"We're an extremely close team this year," Kearney noted. "That chemistry really showed on Saturday with the continuous support we gave each other in every event."

The women's team finished with an impressive total of 82 points, 30 points above the fourth-place finisher, Southern Maine and just 11 points behind NESCAC foe Williams. The Panthers scored in every running event but four.

Highlights for the Panthers included two individual New England champions. Alex Morris '16 won the 400-meter dash

by half a second. Adrian Walsh '16 joined Morris in the winner's circle for individual events with her performance in the 5,000-meter race.

Relay victories came for the Panthers in the 4x400, run by Kearney, Paige Fernandez '17, Lucy Lang '19 and Morris. The team of Claire Gomba '19, Isabella Alfaro '18, Robin Vincent '18 and Lauren Bougioukas '16 won the 4x800. The Panthers also won the distance medley relay ran by Alexis Jabukowski '19, Kate McCluskey '18, Nicole Schachman '16 and Abigail Nadler '19. Additionally, Nadler etched her name in school records with her second-place finish in the 3,000-meter race, clocking a time of 10:08.38. Maddie Pronovost '17 also set a school record in the pentathlon, registering 2,974 points, good for sixth overall.

As Kearney pointed out, this year's squad isn't just full of one-trick ponies.

"We're a really deep team," she said, "which showed in how capable we were of placing with a relatively small team competing yesterday. Most people who scored points did so in more than one event."

A top-eight finish both earns the team points and garners the athlete All-New England DIII honors.

Head Coach Martin Beatty '84 couldn't help but be proud of both teams' efforts.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

